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Local dancer wins competes for national title

CHARLTON — At just 10 years old, local dancer Madison Rizzo was crowned Junior Miss Dance of New England 2018 and will soon compete on the national stage for the title of Junior Miss Dance of America.

Madison, the daughter of Jason and Nicole Rizzo of Charlton, is a student at Massachusetts Dance Academy, where she has been taking classes for eight years. She was awarded the honor of Junior Miss Dance of New England this past March, and will compete in Anaheim, California for the prestigious national recognition of Junior Miss Dance of America.

"We are so proud of Madison for working hard and accomplishing this big goal," says Massachusetts Dance Academy's owner, Ashley Collette. "I am incredibly excited for Madison and her family to experience this journey and celebrate her success at such

Turn To MADISON, page A2

Tree House receives approval for expansion

BY JASON BLEAU VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON - Tree House Brewing Company is expanding after receiving approval from the Planning Board on Wednesday, July 18.

The approval was the result of a continuation of a hearing from June and within ten minutes Planning Board members gave their support to the business to expand on its 55,000-squarefoot craft brew house on Sturbridge Road. The approved plan will allow for the building of 16,000-square-feet of additional space to its retail shop and the brewery itself including a new bar.

The popular local business had drawn in over 4,000 customers since opening in 2017 and its customer base has only continued to expand. That popularity has had its consequences however as traffic concerns have risen in that area however the company Turn To TREE HOUSE, page A3

Army nurse recognized with Quilt of Valor

Madison Rizzo demonstrates her ability

On Wednesday, July 18 members of the Webster Dudley VFW Post 654, James Morrison, Stephen Rogerson the veterans services officer for the town of Dudley, and James Counihan presented a "Quilt of Valor" to Dot Barre at the Masonic Overlook in Charlton. Dot just celebrated her 100th birthday on Tuesday, July 17, 2018.

As a young woman, Dot distinguished herself early on as an Army nurse attached to General George

Patton's Third Army during the Battle of the Bulge.

Courtesv photos

Dot is a fearless woman still, and shared many stories of her experiences during the war and stories of friends and co-workers she lost when the German Army Luftwaffe strafed the hospital tents while she was tending to injured soldiers. Dot recalled the many challenges that needed to be faced during that time.

Turn To QUILT, page A4



Courtesv photo Dot Barre surrounded by admirers with her Quilt of Valor

Selectmen approve added hours for treasurer's office

BY JASON BLEAU VII I AGER CORR

CHARLTON-The Board of Selectmen has approved the increased hours for the assistant town accountant position at the request of the town's finance director with the hope of finding a candidate that will not only be a good fit for

The move comes after the announcement by Town Administrator Robin Craver that Monica Redmond is departing Charlton from the assistant town accountant position in order to take the treasurer position in West Brookfield. Craver said several town parties agreed that expanding the position was

tually step into the finance director position in the future.

'We held a finance team meeting which included the finance director, human resources director, director of assessing and treasurer/collector. It was agreed that finding good financial employees and keeping them is one of

Charlton but will be able to commit to the town long-term.

in the best interest of the town seeing as Redmond was being prepped to even-

Explanations by two boards over Article 27 NEITHER RECOMMENDS RESCINDING; BOTH PREFER AMENDING

BY JASON BLEAU VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON - The controversial Article 27 approved at the town of Charlton's May 21 spring annual town meeting dominated discussion in both the Selectmen and Planning Board meetings recently as a special town meeting

was scheduled to potentially rescind the article next month.

Conversations started during the Selectmen's meeting on July 17 at which selectmen approved a special town meeting warrant for Aug. 1 at 7 p.m. at the Charlton Middle School to reconsider Article 27. The meeting is the result of a citizens' petition containing over 250 signatures after the article became a central piece of recent controversy involving several marijuana companies seeking to set up growing operations in Charlton. The most prominent of these operations has been Valley Green Grow which plans to construct a \$100 million cultivation project at Charlton Orchard on Old Worcester Road.

However, the conversation between the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board on July 17 was more geared towards the public outrage over the approval of the article in May, as selectmen have received

negative backlash from those against the zoning regulation with many making the inaccurate assumption that the board changed the article's wording before the public could vote. Selectman John McGrath put the Planning Board on the spot,

Turn To ARTICLE 27, page A14

Citizens petition to rescind marijuana bylaws does not gain Planning Board support

WRITTEN AND SUBMITTED BY CATHY BENJAMIN

This past week has seen much of the speculation and misinformation about cannabis cultivation and dispensing finally discussed in three open meetings; July 16, 17, and 18. The purpose of

this article is to report on the Planning Board public hearing held on July 18 - Citizens Petition to Rescind the Marijuana Zoning Bylaw.

The Planning Board voted unanimously not to support the citizens petition to rescind Article 27, Marijuana Zoning Bylaws. They concluded, after much discussion, that keeping the current bylaw in place provided protection to town citizens until a new amendment to Article 27 could be presented at the fall town meeting.

Four members of the Planning Board

were present, Patricia Rydlak, Jean Vincent, Alycia Dzik, and Don Clay. Also, in attendance at this meeting were Bill Scanlan, Interim Town Planner; Curtis Meskus, Zoning Enforcement

Turn To PLANNING BOARD, page A14



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If you finance, you will have a budgeted monthly payment and won't need to spend all your hardearned cash. In fact, with today's low interest rate options, in some cases as low as 0%, it may make more sense to finance your car. You also have op-

Customers ask place: How tions with the financing that can help to protect the value of the car. Consider GAP protection to protect against a total loss. Ask us for more details on how this works. Of course, the downside of financing is that in most cases you will pay interest. Because todays cars are rather expensive many customers take on longer term notes increasing the interest expense and leaving them still owing money when they want to trade in for another. This leads us to leasing.

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CHARLTON CAPSULES

Ethier is the son of Todd and Lynn Ethier of Southbridge and is a 2017 graduate of Shepherd Hill Regional High School.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

BEVERLY — Endicott College is pleased to announce the Dean's List students for spring 2018. In order to qualify for the Dean's List, a student must obtain a minimum grade point average of 3.5, receive no grade below a "C", have no withdrawal grades, and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits for the semester. The following Charlton area students have met these requirements: Benjamin Horgan, Senior, English, son of Timothy Horgan and Elizabeth Horgan; Brynne Mandeville, Freshman, hospitality management, daughter of Paul Mandeville and Tina Mandeville; Garrett Mandeville, Freshman, liberal studies, son of Paul Mandeville and Tina Mandeville; and Alyssa Smith-Silk, Senior, psychology, daughter of

William Silk and Lynne Smith

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University congratulates more than 700 students named to the Spring 2018 Dean's List. Students are named to the Dean's List for achieving a semester grade point average of 3.30 or higher. Among them were Charlton residents: Emily Cofsky working toward a degree in pre-pharmacy; Julianne Green working toward a degree in accounting; Matthew Pavone working toward a degree in psychology; and Simon Veilleux working toward a degree in civil engineering /reservoir engineering concentration.

BRISTOL, RI — The following local residents were among the 1,127 students who received their degrees in May as part of the Class of 2018 at Roger Williams University. Daniela O'Regan of Charlton with a B.S. in biology

continued from page 1

an elite level."

To achieve the regional title, Madison had to compete against dancers in the 10 to 12 year old age group, and was scored in the subjects of ballet, tap, jazz, and acrobatics.

She also had to complete a professional interview and a solo dance performance. Her combined scores qualified her to win the crown and proceed to the national competition in Anaheim this month.

The national competition and convention, offered through the Dance Masters of America organization, takes place over a full week. Local winners from all over the United States and Canada will be evaluated and scored during their classes, interviews, and performances.

"It's not just the high level of competition that is so special about this event," says Collette. "The community of dancers, teachers, and judges at the event is inspiring. It's pretty amazing for students to have the opportunity to interact with so many wonderful influences in the dance industry!'

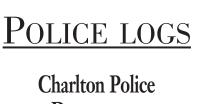
To learn more about what Madison's experience will encompass, visit www. dancemastersofamerica.org. For more information about Massachusetts Dance Academy and its classes, visit www.madanceacademy.com.

Massachusetts Dance Academy serves over 150 students, offering dance classes in ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, acrobatics, cheer, and more.





Madison Rizzo with her New England trophy



MADISON

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Department

Arrests/Summons: July 15-21

All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Police agencies can no longer print the names of people who are arrested or charged with domestic assault related charges. The new law is designed to protect victims, so they are not re-victimized through indirect identification.

Kevin Dejesus of Charlton: Disorderly conduct

Ginamarie Gomes of Worcester: B&E of a vehicle with intent to commit a felony (larceny), larceny from a building, and wanton destruction of property under \$1,200

Anibal Ramirez of Southbridge: OUI-liquor second offense, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, marked lanes violation and assault &battery on a police officer

Sarah Ianniccheri of Charlton: operating MV with suspended license, operating MV with a revoked registration, and operating uninsured MV

Unnamed juvenile male from Auburn: B&E of a vehicle with intent to commit a felony (larceny)



CHARLTON

\$380,000 9 Muggett Hill Rd, Craft, Melissa J, and Wright-Craft, Heather M, to Moreno, Ernesto, and Martinez-Garcia, Elisa.

\$338,500 175 Gould Rd Richard, Paul H, and Richard, Norma J, to Richard, Keith L, and Richard, Jennifer L.

\$175,000 23 Highfield Rd #D, Roufail, Nabil, to Ayoub, Abdelmasih, and Ayoub, Nevein.

\$70,900 Blood Rd #3, Lemansky, Kathleen M, to Bellerive, Arthur A, and Bellerive, Kimberly A.

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Frost and Durant secure local funding in FY19 budget

Representative K. Frost (R-Auburn) and Representative Peter Durant (R-Spencer) J. announced that funding has been secured for local projects in Charlton within the final Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) state budget. The funds will be used to enhance public safety improvements and construct a public outdoor gym in the town of Charlton.

Both legislators success-

Paul fully advocated for \$25,000 and to upgrade the communications system for various public safety departments in the town of Charlton. The budget also included \$25,000 to support the construction of a public outdoor gym in Charlton. In addition, the town will receive \$21,633 in Chapter 70 funding.

Rep. Frost said, "I'm pleased we finally have a state budget for our Commonwealth. This budget provides increased local funding for towns and schools. It also contains funding for local initiatives. The more state aid we can bring to our local communities means the more local services our constituents can use and count on."

"This funding will help advance some of the projects important to the town and its residents," Rep. Durant added. "I'm pleased Rep. Frost and I could successfully advocate for their inclusion in this year's budget."

The six-member Conference Committee reported out the final budget compromised between the House and Senate versions approved by the members in each respective chamber. The budget includes increases to local aid and Chapter 70 funding from the previous FY18 budget. Chapter 70 represents state aid to public elementary and secondary schools to assist with school operations and services.

The final version of the FY19 budget now moves to Governor Baker's desk for consideration. To view additional information regarding the FY19 budget, visit the Legislature's website www. malegislature.gov.

New bill protects the disabled from caregivers

BOSTON — The Massachusetts State Senate took action to protect individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities from caregivers found to have substantiated charges of abuse.

Known as Nicky's Law, the legislation was filed by Senator Michael O. Moore (D-Millbury) to address a gap in protections for the most vulnerable members of our community. The bill establishes a registry of individuals found to have committed substantiated abuse of individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Providers serving these populations would be required to screen potential employees during the application process, and prohibited from hiring any individual who appears on the registry.

"Almost four years ago I was contacted by a constituent, whose son Nicky was tragically abused by a Commonwealth licensed service provider," said Moore. "When criminal prosecution did not result in a conviction, the family was shocked and devastated to learn no existing state law would prevent the abuser from gaining employment with another provider. The Commonwealth has an elevated responsibility to protect the most vulnerable members of our community, and this legislation will disrupt a cycle of abuse that has already affected far too many families in Massachusetts. The passage of this bill is a victory for Nicky, and hundreds of individuals and families across the Commonwealth."

Research shows that individuals with disabilities, like other vulnerable populations, are more likely to be abused. Additionally, cognitive or speech difficulties, physical barriers to the judicial system, and lower rates of police follow-up and prosecution make criminal convictions extremely difficult. Despite these challenges, a criminal conviction is currently the only way to prevent an abusive caretaker from being hired by an unknowing provider in Massachusetts. The registry will instead rely on the findings of the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC), which already investigates all allegations of abuse against individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

"When I first took office, a concerned mother reached out and shared with me a story about how her son, Dana, had been mentally and physically abused by his caretakers. That caretaker continued to seek out new jobs in the same field, but individuals with histories of abusiveness must be kept far away from this field of work," said Senator Patrick O'Connor (R-Weymouth). "The Senate came together to pass common-sense legislation to protect those who are most vulnerable in our society. It must be a basic standard that all caretakers are compassionate, responsible, and respectful."

"Those who abuse individuals with developmental disabilities must be held to account. Today, the Senate has acted to close the gap in protections for persons with developmental disabilities and help deny abusers the chance to abuse again. I want to thank Senator Moore for championing this legislation," said Senate President Harriette L. Chandler (D-Worcester).

Nicky's Law emerged from a collaborative process that included significant input form disability advocates, relevant state agencies, and legislators. The final language includes robust due process protections, including the option for a full appeal hearing before the Division of Administrative Legal Appeals (DALA). Service providers who fail to check the registry will be subject to fines, and the potential termination of licenses and state contracts. The DPPC is also mandated to conduct an annual audit to ensure all applicable names are added to the registry, and providers fully comply with reporting requirements.

The legislation, which passed the Senate unanimously, has now been referred to the House of Representatives for consideration. To continue tracking the bill, S.2606, please visit the Legislature's website, www.malegislature.gov.

TREE HOUSE

continued from page 1

has worked hard with Charlton town officials to resolve to problems and the July 18 hearing showed that partnership to still be alive and well.

Town Planner Bill Scanlon said that the owners of Tree House Brewing Company have continued to work with the town to help make adjustments to resolve traffic concerns, including adding parking. "At the last meeting the traffic consultant spoke about the measures that they've taken in terms of signage to direct traffic to prevent some of the left turn lanes heading westbound. In addition, they've added some new parking towards the rear of the property so that will alleviate some of the cuing on Route 20 and with the long driveway to the back allow cars to cue inside the site. They're expanding the hours of operations so there's be less congestions when they are open," Scanlon said.

He added he feels Tree House Brewing Company is doing what they need to do in order to improve their business and prevent problems for the Route 20 corridor which is heavily traveled in the town of Charlton.

"I think they're moving forward. They're solving a lot of the traffic issues on the site."

Adding to the traffic concern discussion, David Faist of

McClure Engineering who represented Tree House Brewing Company at the hearing said a traffic study is in the final stages as well.

"They're in the process of finalizing the traffic study. That will be part of a submittal to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Office in its final recommendations," Faist said. "They're working with the Department of Transportation to come up with a solution to the issues at the curb cut. The filing should be within the next 30 days and the Planning Board will receive a copy. It's required by state law."

In June, the Planning Board did receive correspondence from the Charlton Police Chief indicating that traffic incidents had been reduces in the area of the brewery. The Planning Board voted unanimously to approve the sire place with construction to begin the fall and complete around the same time in 2019.

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Agriculture Zone = Residential SMEGA MARIJUANA Coming to Your Neighborhood?

Charlton is only town that allows marijuana processing in a RESIDENTIAL zone

- Planning Board says Article 27 is NOT WHAT THEY INTENDED
 - Article 27 allows UNLIMITED cultivation and processing on any agricultural=residential parcel over 10 acres

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1. Rescind Article 27 bylaw

2. New Bylaw To prohibit non-medical marijuana Will require ballot vote to enact prohibition

Protect your property value - Paid for by citizens of Charlton

Where can I get the best deal on a home?

Many times people will reach out to me asking how they get the best deal on a home. This market with low inventory is a little more challenging being in a sellers market where the seller gets to dictate price and terms in most scenarios. Usually the homes they inquire on are the foreclosures and pre-foreclosures on Zillow. Unfortunately, this website can be very misleading because these homes are not necessarily for sale and most of the time are not for sale. The pre-foreclosure on Zillow is just showing that in the registry of deeds that the owner has missed a payment and the bank has filed a notice. On the foreclosures it shows that the property has been foreclosed on but most of the times it is months before the banks will actually put these properties up for sale. Every market however does have

deals to be had. Many times the deals are word of mouth where someone hears about a deal and buys it before it even hits the market. This is usually a friend or family member. Another opportunity is with estate sales. These

homes may have stayed in one family for many years and been well maintained but need some cosmetic updates. This is a great opportunity to see past those needed cosmetics because many buyers will not. Even in good times there are still foreclosures and foreclosures auctions are a great place to find a deal but there is a lot of competition and you need to know your numbers for the

REALTOR'S REPORT JAMES BLACK

get in over your head. I would also be careful as inventory is slowly rising in many areas it is important in my opinion to not buy hoping for an increasing market by the time you resell the home. This type of speculative buying has

renovation so you don't

worked out well for many investors over the past several years but make sure the market you are buying into shows signs of high enough demand and low enough inventory to warrant a risky approach like this. One more opportunity is the many online auction sites that have occupied homes that have been foreclosed on that will not grant access prior to closing. This is

very risky as you have to make an educated guess based on the exterior condition what the interior condition may be. You will definitely need to pay cash as you will not be able to get an interior appraisal and you may not be able to get title insurance depending on who the occupant is. There are also banks utilizing online auction sites for short sales and even starting to preapprove some of these short sales to get them moved off their books before they have to foreclose on them. Some of these are being listed at a discount.

I always suggest consulting with a local Realtor who knows your market when diving into investing to ensure you are making sound buying decisions.

Art guild plans photography contest

The Massasoit Art Guild is announcing a photo contest celebrating the town of Spencer's unique and beautiful architectural structures. This contest is open to any resident of the region over the age of 18 and you need not be a member of the Guild.

Entry details are available at our website (www.massasoitartguild.com) along with

the online entry form. There is no fee to enter. The contest will close Sept. 1, 2018.

The subject matter must be architectural details or other structural details (fences, birdhouses, monuments, and the like) and must be located in Spencer. All entries will be shown in an online gallery on the Guild website.

Three winning photogra-

phers will receive \$75 and their photos will be used to create a poster to be presented to the town of Spencer. The poster will be created by a local photographer, Karen Langlie, and will be featured at the annual art show held at Spencer Town Hall in October. This opportunity is being made possible by the generosity of a local donor.

The Massasoit Art Guild is an organization that supports local artists by giving them opportunities to meet, attend workshops, and display their artwork in a variety of venues throughout the community. In addition to featuring artists at

local venues, the MAG holds an annual art show and sale each fall at the town hall in Spencer. Membership is open to artists of any fine art form, and those who are interested in supporting the growth of local artists. Membership costs \$25 per vear.

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at the former Hodgkins School in East Brookfield. next to the fire station on Route 9. There is also a photo group that meets separately the first Tuesday of each month.

For more information on the Guild, visit its website at www.massasoitartguild.com or its Facebook page (search for "Massasoit Art Guild").

The Massasoit Art Guild has members from all over central Massachusetts and Connecticut, representing over 23 communities in the region, including: Auburn, Barre, Brimfield, Brookfield, Brookfield, Dudley, East Framingham, Holden. Holland, Leicester, North Brookfield, New Braintree, Oxford, Paxton, Princeton, Southbridge. Rochdale, Spencer, Sturbridge, West Brookfield, Ware, and Worcester.

TREASURER'S OFFICE

continued from page **1**

our higher authorities," Craver said adding that the proposal was to change the position from 20 to 38 hours making it a fulltime post.

'In the past the Board of Selectmen has noted the importance of succession planning. We were hoping that Ms. Redmond would stay and train as the next finance director but being a part-time position I believe we will continue to lose good staff."

Selectman Karen Spiewak inquired about the cost of the increased hours and why this increase wasn't included in budget discussions earlier this year. Craver explained that the town had not foresight of Redmond's departure, but according to Finance Director Donna Foglio this is not the first time increased hours for the assistant line of 40 or 45 hours a week that I'm putting in, but I'm putting in excessive amounts of hours and now I've got to train someone new coming in that won't have any experience at all with the Charlton history. I would like to be able to take on more finance director duties," Foglio said.

Selectman David Singer showed some concern with increasing the hours for a position that has stood at 20 hours for some time. He was vocal about using caution when adding to a position simply to keep certain personnel on board.

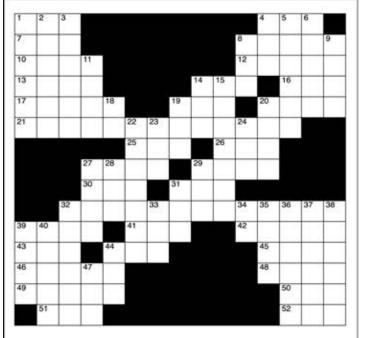
"It was 20 hours a week for a reason. We all want great employees and we want them to stay, but I want to make sure that we're not increasing hours and cost just to keep someone if the position doesn't warrant it,' Singer said.

He added that he simply wanted to make sure the job required those hours to get the work done

Foglio said Charlton is in the middle of a transition especially with her on board as finance director. Foglio joined Charlton in 2017 as the town consolidated the treasurer and collector positions. Foglio said she wants to focus more on those responsibilities and having a much more available assistant town accountant would help on that front.

"It's difficult because you haven't had a finance director role here and there are a lot of comparisons to the prior town accountant and how many hours they needed. I'm trying to bring in the role of what a finance director does. I came in with that experience and I want to utilize it. If I can't have the hours the basic stuff has to be done first before I can do any of the finance director work, Foglio said.

Despite lingering questions from some board members selectmen approved the expand-



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Rated horsepower (abbr.)
- 4. What a cow says
- 7. Snake-like fish
- 8. Spiritual leader
- 10. Catch
- 12. Car part
- 13. Extremely small amount
- 14. Nucleic acid
- The Greatest of All Time 17. Lustrous 19. India's least populated district 46. One from Asia 20. Muckraking journalist Jacob 21. Medicine 25. S. American plant 26. Small amount

29. Where construction takes place 30. Russian river

- 31. Supervises flying
- 32. "City of Brotherly Love" native 39. Greeting at meeting
- 41. Common gibbon
- 42. Type of TV 43. Corpuscle count (abbr.)

- 27. Dry or withered
- 44. Scottish port 45. Computer company 48. Former significant others 49. Woven fabrics or garments 50. One's sense of self-esteem 51. The Science Guy 52. Monetary unit

CLUES DOWN

- 1. "The Leftovers" actress King
- 2. Epic
- 3. Missouri county
- 4. Chinese revolutionary
- 5. Get
- 6. Ancient Greek coin 8. Returned material
- authorization (abbr.)
- 9. Part of the human eye
- 11. A fisherman's accessory
- 14. Brazilian state
- 15. Of a wedding
- 18. Prosecutor
- 19. The main constituent of chromosomes
- 20. Advice
- 22. Principles of right and wrong
- 23. Decorate a cake with frosting 24. Headgear 27. New York art district Lilly, drug company 28. 29. Car mechanics group 31. Influential U.S. president 32. Quell the anger 33. Swiss river 34. Personal computer 35. Incline from the vertical 36.Wild goats 37. Assert that someone has done wrong 38. Anti-apartheid leader __ Mandela 39. Crop of a bird 40. "A Doll's House" playwright 44. Autonomic nervous system
- 47. Consumed



"Every Town Deserves a Good Local Newspaper"

town accountant has come up.

"I've been asking for more hours and this is what we could afford this year in the budget. I've been tracking my hours and I submit the amount of hours I put in every week. We had hoped that would kind of taper off and that it would become more in the

Thankfully Dot persevered to help

many people and she was awarded

the French Croix DeGuerre, the high-

est medal awarded by the country of

France. She also was the recipient of

the Medal of Valor from the country of

Rogerson said, "If I may speak for all

veterans as well as all Americans, Dot,

unending gratitude to you for your ser-

vice to your country with much respect

QUILT

continued from page 1

Luxembourg.

and honor."

ountrysio

and not simply to keep someone on board who was looking for a full-time position.

ed hours of the position unanimously sending it to the Finance Committee for further approval.



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9Round Worcester announced as naming sponsor for Running Out of Summer 5K

WORCESTER

Wormtown Milers and Rapscallion Brewery are pleased to announce 9Round Worcester as the naming sponsor of the inaugural Running Out Of Summer 5K to be held on Aug. 25. The race, which begins and ends at Rapscallion Brewery in Sturbridge benefits Second Chance Animal Services of Worcester and East Brookfield.

"We are extremely excited to be part of such a worth-while event," commented Sheri Barrette, owner of 9Round Worcester. "Not only does this event support animal welfare — a cause deeply important to me personally - but it also focuses on including fitness in a healthy lifestyle, a core value of 9Round Fitness."

The race was conceived by the Wormtown Milers and Rapscallion Brewery as a means to promote community, philanthropy, and fun in south central Worcester county. The charity was chosen by asking Rapscallion Mug Club members and Wormtown Milers members to vote for their charity of choice, with Second Chance being the overwhelming winner.

"We were so excited to learn that we had been chosen as the beneficiary of the Running Out of Summer 5K," said Lindsay Doray, director of development at Second Chance Animal Services. "Not only are we appreciative of being the recipient of much-needed funds for animal welfare, but we have also been impressed with the positivity and incredible dedication to the local community exhibited by Rapscallion, Wormtown MIlers, and 9Round."

"Rapscallion has long been an animal-friendly establishment, so it was no surprise when our Mug Club members chose Second Chance as the beneficiary," said Cedric Daniel, co-proprietor of Rapscallion Brewery. "Part of our model is to give back to the local community in

which we operate, and the partnership with Wormtown Milers was a perfect opportunity to do just that. Including our members in some of the decision-making process provided an even wider sense of community, something that is directly in line with our core values."

Participants in this inaugural event will enjoy a scenic, timed 5K race that is dog- and kid-friendly, and will also receive a tech shirt, medal, and a free beer specially brewed by Rapscallion for the event — the Running Out of Summer Ale. The beer will be brewed in a very limited quantity, on tap solely on the day of the event and the evening prior during bib pick-up.

"Wormtown Milers has been actively seeking partners that align with our goal to provide a supportive and community-centric road race that is also loads of fun," commented Heidi White, co-founder of Wormtown "Rapscallion Milers. Brewery is the ultimate presenting partner, and Second Chance is such an incredible organization that is so dedicated to our furry friends – we didn't think we could do any better. Then 9Round Worcester signed on as Naming Sponsor, and we knew this was going to be a very special event. 9Round Worcester lives and breathes inclusivity, community, fitness, and fun."

The race, which takes place at 10am on Saturday, Aug. 25,, caps at 300 runners. Those wishing to participate are encouraged to register early to avoid missing out on this memorable event. Register online at www.runningoutofsummer.racewire. com.

Since 2014, Wormtown Milers has been a welcoming, supportive running team in central Massachusetts whose members are of all fitness levels and abilities. The goal of the team is to provide an inclusive and fun community for runners of all levels. Whether it's running a marathon to qualify for Boston, getting a team together for a 200-mile relay, or dressing up to run a Halloween 5K, Wormtown Milers is at the start line with smiling faces. Teamwork, support, sportsmanship, encouragement, and dedication - those are the hallmarks of Wormtown Milers. Learn more at www. wormtownmilers.com.

Rapscallion Brewery is a microbrewery destination located on the grounds of Hyland Orchard in Sturbridge with a tap room that is open daily, the brewery offers weekly live music and events, an annual mug club, a disc golf course, and a food truck which runs on weekends. A dozen Rapscallion beers rotate on tap including seasonals and small batches, complemented by other offerings such as a local hard cider and kombucha and a number of wines, as well as a sangria and a housemade non-alcoholic root beer and Polar beverages. A casual, comfortable hang-out for friends, family and four-legged companions, it maintains a sizeable collection of board games and opens space throughout the brewery for gathering, including a seasonal patio. Community-minded, the brewery hosts charity events regularly and sponsors numerous local causes each year. Rapscallion also operates two satellite locations -Table & Tap in Acton and Kitchen & Bar in Concord, gastro pubs with artisanal fare and Rapscallion brews on tap. For more information, please visit drinkrapscallion.com.

Founded in 2008 by professional kickboxer Shannon Hudson and his wife, Heather, 9Round is a specialized fitness center that brings kickboxing fitness training to the average person in a convenient, affordable, 30-minute, full body circuit format. The program is developed around a proprietary and copyrighted system of nine challenging workout stations developed by Shannon himself.



Courtesy photo

Sheri Barrette, owner of 9Round Worcester, with her dog Romi,

Today, there are more than 700 9Round clubs worldwide. For more information, please visit www.9round.com.

Second Chance Animal Services is a nationally recognized organization that provides innovative programs and services to help animals. Second Chance Animal Services has been helping animals since 1999. We are a non-profit charitable 501c3 organization that operates a no-kill animal shelter, veterinary clinics that provide subsidized rates, and more. We help over 34,000 pets through adoption, low cost spay/neuter, subsidized veterinary care, community outreach, educational programs, training, a pet food pantry, and other services. We strive to keep pets in loving homes whenever possible by providing services to help pets in the community. We also operate an animal shelter that helps thousands of pets each year. Learn more at www.secondchanceanimals.org.



Garden your way to better health

Break out the tools and garden your way to a healthier mind, body and spirit. Gardeners have always known it, but now research proves that gardening is a great form of exercise.

You'll work out all your major muscle groups when raking, digging and planting for an hour. Include gardening as a major component of your workout schedule.

You'll stretch and strengthen muscles while promoting cardiovascular health and maintaining bone mass. A University of Arkansas study found that yard work as well as weight training more significantly maintained bone density than aerobics, dancing or bicycling in women over 50.

And for those of us trying to lose weight, add 30 minutes of gardening to your daily or weekly routine to help shed some extra pounds. A half hour of raking burns 162 calories, weeding 182, and turning the compost pile a whopping 250 calories. Gardening several times a week will help

keep you and your landscape looking its best. Anytime I can receive double or triple the benefit from my time and energy, the more likely I am to complete the task.

Protect your joints and muscles while





gardening. Warm up, just as you would for any workout, with a few simple stretches. Protect your knees by using a stool, kneeling pad or one legged kneel (keeping your other foot flat on the ground and back straight) instead of squatting.

And no matter what shape you are in, drink

lots of fluids

to stay hydrated during and after you finish gardening. This is especially important with the extreme temperatures we are experiencing this summer. Try gardening early in the morning or evening when temperatures are a bit cooler. And time your work in garden beds

Turn To GARDENING page A7



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Harrington fundraiser nets \$220,000 emergency department



Members of the Harrington Emergency Department pose for a group photo.

Courtesy photos



Elise Wilson, RN, and her family attend "A Fare to Remember"



HBRIDGE — Harrington HealthCare System is celebrating a successful blacktie fundraiser held July 14 at Mechanics Hall in Worcester, which raised more than \$200,000 toward the renovation of its Southbridge Emergency Department. The event featured tastings from more than a dozen local restaurants including Rovezzi's, Porterhouse, Baba Sushi, Mexicali, The Clambox, Metro Bistro and Burton's Grill. Coffee and dessert were provided by Sturbridge Coffee Roasters, Whoopie-Doo and Cupcakes Too, and The Publick House. Guests Julian Edelman and Danny Amendola held a onehour exclusive meet and greet for VIP ticket holders, then entertained all 500 attendees with a brief on-stage appearance that included autographing jerseys and replica Lombardi trophies. The signed memorabilia was auctioned off and raised more than \$17,000. Elise Wilson, the Harrington nurse who was stabbed at work by a patient in 2017, gave an emotional speech on stage later in the evening, encouraging everyone to support local healthcare and remember how fortunate they are to have a local emergency room. "If I was anywhere else when the attack took place, I probably would not be here today. I am alive because of these people," Wilson said. "The next life they save could be yours.'

Her speech preceded a live appeal to all guests, which surpassed the intended \$25,000 goal in a matter of minutes.

Congressman Richard Neal stands with Julian Edelman and Danny Amendola during the VIP Meet and Greet at Harrington's "A Fare to Remember" gala.



Julian Edelman and Danny Amendola entertain the crowd at Mechanics Hall.

The theme of the evening was Harrington Heroes, poignantly displayed by four-foot letters in illuminated marquee style on the center of the stage. A one minute video by Governor Charlie Baker was also shared with guests, as he commended the healthcare system on being a great partner in the Commonwealth, and offered his admiration for Elise in her recovery.

A ceremonial groundbreaking for the Southbridge ED will be held in September, but preliminary construction begins this month. The project is expected to take about 13 months to complete.

The last major renovation of the Southbridge ED occurred in 1998. Since then, the annual volume of visits has grown 23%, from approximately 22,000 to nearly 30,000.

This renovation will increase the number of exam rooms by three, expand capacity to serve 35,000 patients annually by adding 2,400 square feet and modernizing the existing 8,500 square feet through renovation. Patient flow, security and technology upgrades are also included in the plans.

Harrington is still looking to raise funds to help renovation costs. To learn more, visit harringtonhospital.org/give.



500 guests helped raised more than \$200,000 for Harrington's Southbridge ED renovation at the July 14 Mechanics Hall event.

LEARNING

CHARLTON MIDDLE SCHOOL ANNOUNCES HONOR ROLL

The following students have earned a place on the honor roll for the fourth term at Charlton Middle School

GRADE 5

High Honors: Nicholas Adler, Anthony Avoglia, Kyomi Black, Kendall Bond, Chase Bourassa, Rachael Ciani, Maeve Costa, Jenna DeFosse. Andrew Desrochers, Bella DiGregorio, Carly Donohue, Fiona Duke, Donovan Ennis, Conor Gadbois, Alexander Gessner, Brianna Hicks, Brady Holden, Ryan Jaworski, Julia Johnson, Alanna Kelly, Rosalie Knowlton, Nathan Lashua, Kathryn LeBlanc, Scott Lehmann, Alexis Leoni, Courtney Lolax, Eva Lombardi, Mazur, Nolan Kvle McGonagle, Isabel McLam, Paul McManus, Lillian Murillo, Ava Murray, Catherine Pavone, Nicholas Ramsey, Owen Reece, Colin Resener, Kaylie Richard, Madison Rizzo, Raymond St. Francis, Leela Start, Benjamin Streeter, Shawn Sulkoski, Jillian Terlizzi, Alison Welton, Sadie Wilber, Brady Wisniewski, Jacob Wojcicki and Sophina Zacek

Kaelen Honors: Anderson, Bryce Andre, Sawyer Ayotte, Connor Belanger, Kasey Blanchette, Camden Bousquet, Liam Burke, Nathaniel Burlingame, Mary Butler, Ennio Aiden Cartagena, Casamassa, Kellen Chumsantivut, Calvin Mikayla Costello,

Crocker, Ryan Dawson, Jadan Deauseault, Anthony Desto, Francisco Diaz, Michael Doktor, Madison Dolan, Nina Falcone, Jackson Fromm, Nicholas Fry, Shea Germain, John Gordon, Matthew Guerin, Aidan Hachey, Aniela Hardy, Daniel Harris, Alexander Hedge Hughes, Thomas Hennessey, Ava Iozzo, Sarah Jalbert, Jayden Kelleher, Norah Larson, Emma Leclair, Garrett Lucht, Joseph Mancini, Daven Matta Russell, Brayden McCoy, Ayla McGrail, Jed McManus, Calle Merchant, Chloe Monahan, Zachary Moody, Angela Navaroli, Nathan Nguyen, Julia Osche, Isabella Pettinelli, Gabriel Prado, Joseph Roman, Delaney Rose, Adam Schwarzenberg, John Shields, Thomas Sousa, Dulse Sullivan, Reid Szela, Colleen Thomas, John Tighe, Cassandra Tinsley, Isabella Tolomio, Lukas Trevarthan, Anthony Villanueva, Alexis Warren and Mara Weber

GRADE 6

High Honors: Kelsy Brown, Rachel Carpenter, Jianna Clouthier, David Cranney, Logan Daniels, Dylan DeJesus, Arlo Dzik, Jacob Fredette, Chloe Graves, Caleb Green, Patrick Harrington, Kyra Hennessey, Rebecca Joesten, Athena Karas, Harry Kennan, Julianna LaForce, Alexander Lanpher, Sevin LaVoie, Emily LeBrun, James Palfreman, Jayden Remillard, Adrien Roach, Chase Rupert,

Daniel Russell, Ronan Shaw, Matthew Smolski, Adriana Stanley, Victoria Tinsley, Jack Ugrinow, Akshat Viswanath, Gavin Wallace, Agatha White, Thomas Wilk and Hailey Williamson

Honors: Drew Aubin, Emily Barker, David Bashi, Caleb Bergstrom, Jovanna Bertrand, Alex Beshiri, Jacob Bowser, Natalie Burdett, Caitlyn Burke, Owen Kirsten Burlingame, Cristo, LeeAnn Dagnese, Dandridge, Trov Hayden Davis, Nicholas Dell'Ovo, Dylan Dietlin, Benjamin Doherty, Kaelyn Donovan, Brynn Dwyer Sweeney, Kacey Flanagan, Giovanni Garcia. Grace Garon. Rachel Gormley, Gavin Groh, Bridget Hast, Hadley Heaphy, James Heywood, Emma Horner, Luke Hurley, Nathan Johnson, James Kokernak, Olivia Kowalski, Jalynn Krasnecky, Juliana Lancette, Bianca LaTulippe, Abigayle Linde, Carter Lindsey, Nicole Martinez Merino, Cecilia McDonald, Vincent Messier, Maggie Mullaly, Benjamin Nashawaty, Antoine Nassour, Conor Newman, Alix Norrman, Madelyn O'Hearn, Alyssa Palermo, Madelyn Parker, Peyton Parrettie, Kayla Pospesel, Natasha Ramirez, Jacob Reed, Emma Rizzo, Emily Routhier, Peyton Sanborn, Caterina Schiappa, Ava Sousa, Graham Stevens, Andrew Sullivan, Yasmin Christopher Tolomio, Verdolino, Gianna Verdolino and Emma

Yaede

GRADE 7

High Honors: Katherine Alicea, Audunsson, Samuel Olivia Beaudette, Sofia Beaulieu, Quinn Beck, Ryan Berk, Kennedy Bernard, Camden Blum, Emma Bousquet, Jacob Brodeur, Madison Brousseau, Samantha Bullen, Caitlyn Bussiere, Ellen Butler, Julia Canty, Shaylan Cashman. Augustus Cederman, Victoria Chamberlain, Braden Clifford, Jillian Isabella Cloutier, Coleman, Olivia Cranney, Kenerson Cronin, Cumming, Colleen Connor Daniel, Davey, Christopher Ryan Davis, Danielle Doiron, Brady Donahue, Brenna Donohue, Emma Drake, Elizabeth Dreitlein, Aidan Dugan, Adam Faucher, Kaylee Fox, Dara Gadbois, Christopher Galli Garrepy, Haleigh Zachary Gessner, Liam Groh, Angelina Hargrave, Abbigael Hill, Luke Hill, Madeleine Johnson, Grace Jones, Kellen Kinnes, Alicia Kirwin, Olivia Krukonis, Camille Larson, Leah Leclair, Rachel Lolax, Abigail Lombardi, Sara Malaney, Luke Miller, Joseph Montville, Nicole Moore, Emery Mullen, Colleen Murphy, Colin O'Brien, Madison Poirier, Zachary Rivas, Sydney Roland, Abrahm Routhier, Joy Schultz, Alice Torres, Francisco Torres, Lucas Welton, Emma White, Ashley Kaitlyn Wojcicki,

Woodson and Rileigh Zacek

Honors: Alyssa Adams, Austin Ayotte, Haven Banks, Ethan Barre, John Begg, Brenna Behan, Jarred Bezanson, Jaidyn Brosnihan, Braden Bullard, Taylor Burdett, Joslyn Butler, Jamie Calkins, Joshua Carignan, Hailey Carlson, Kaylie Christian, Nathaniel Chute, Libby Condrate, Ryan Davis, Emma Dickinson, Lauryn Dyer, Marlee Eckbold, Ashley Erickson, Cameron Fitton, Evan Frost, Alexander Gaither, Hanna Gamelli, Alexander Gammetto, Emma Girasuolo, John Guerin, Teofila Hardy, Lillian Henry, Abbigail Liberty, Olivia Lombardi, Shawn Maple, Rachel McMenemy, Kyle Moody, Jonathan Norrman. Brady O'Neill, Damon Provencal, Angelina Ramirez, Emily Riopel, Kieya Santerre, Sawyer Smith, Ivana Stenman, Jazmine Sullivan Ray, Brayden Thompson and Andrew Trudel

GRADE 8

High Honors: David Abbott, Olivia Mae AcquaahHarrison, Justin Barton, Jordan Beeman, Delaney Bodamer, Carignan, Adriana Emma Cederman, Connor Cluett, Spencer Courville, Samantha Cox, Samantha D'Arcangelo, Marisa DeJesus, Beau Desrosiers, Lillian Dolan, Nathan Dreitlein, Joseph Dumas, Aislinn Ennis, Haevyn Hazzard, Kailey Jones, Andrew Kania,

Taylor Kockinskas, Rhiannon Mansur. McGonagle, Bridget Madigan McManus. Connor Montville, Olivia Morin, Kyle Norberg, Paige Osche, Devin Phillips, Gabriel Roach, Adeline Smith, Isabella Tanacea, Anna Thomas, Jillian Tucker, Trevor Wallace and Oliver Weiland

Honors: Aidan Adler, Jack Albright, Yanellie Andino, Lana Antocci, Mariam Ayoub, Jake Beaudette, Jayde Berthiaume, Olivia Briggs, Hannah Burke, Dylan Butkus, Julia Butler, Juliana Castaneda Groccia, Kaitlyn Chase, Ethan Chumsantivut, Alison Ciani, Joshua Cook, Opal Cronin Loggie, Anthony Dell'Ovo, Alannah Downs, Henry Fredette, Lillian Guyette, Molly Hachey, Kiley Hanlan, Elizabeth Harris, Chloe Jordan, Cole Komssi, Madelyn Kuchnicki, Matthew Kustigian, Margaret Landry, Kayden LeBoeuf, Jacob LeBrun, Alec LeDuc, Jack Levesque, Avery List, Safwan Macharia, Joshua Martin, Ryan McKenzie, Richard Menard, Brayden Michaelson, Erin Moran, Samuel Murillo, Hanna Nystrom, Gabrielle Packard, Meghna Patel, Gabrielle William Reece, Amanda Sampson, Micah Sanborn, Halle Sanchez, Jordan Sheehan, Cole Smith, Reis Smith, Katrina Somers, David Trevarthan, Sofia Vangel, Mark Wassef and Harrison Wright.

GARDENING

continued from page **A5** when they're blanketed in shade.

Protect both your eyes and skin from the sun's intense rays by always wearing sunscreen, a hat and sunglasses. And consider regular checkups with a dermatologist to monitor for skin cancer.

Pace yourself so you can enjoy the process



* * * Friday's Child n in m

Hi! My name is Kenya and I am a fashionista!

Kenya is a biracial 12-year-old girl who describes herself as fun, outgoing and caring. Kenya loves style and fashion, and she would like to work in the fashion industry when she grows up. Some of Kenya's other favorite activities include arts and crafts proj-

ects, singing, dancing and playing sports. In

school, Kenya gets along with others and

makes friends easily. She is of average in-

and smell the roses, heliotrope, daphne and alyssum along the way. Gardeners have been into aromatherapy long before its recent rise in popularity. A few strategically placed fragrant flowers can create a delightful welcome home, soothing scent in your secret garden or aromatherapy as you weed and tend your landscape.

Include some edible flowers and fruit for you, the birds and the butterflies. Nothing beats the flavor or nutritional value of fresh-from-thegarden fruit and vegetables. Plus, watching the butterflies and hummingbirds sip on nectar from a fuchsia, coral honeysuckle, verbena or salvia as the finches feed on coneflower seeds will provide added beauty while the squirrels' acrobatic antics on giant sunflowers are sure to entertain.

If the task is too big or your time is limited, ask for help. Gardening can also be a great team sport. Or make it a round robin as you take turns gardening in each other's gardens. You'll all

Photo by Melinda Myers, LLC

Heliotrope, nicotiana and other fragrant flowers can provide aromatherapy at the end of a stressful day.

enjoy a day filled with gardening, conversation and laughter. What was once an overwhelming task suddenly becomes a chance to spend time with friends, enjoy the garden and create new memories. Sharing your knowledge, plant divisions or other talents like cooking or pet sitting may be the perfect trade for your friends' time and energy.

And as a wise person once said "Planting a garden is a way of showing

you believe in tomorrow."

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Myers' web site is www. MelindaMyers.com.



Kenya Age 12

family that is bi-racial.

Who Can Adopt?

Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ singles and couples.

The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match for.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-MARE (617-964-6273) or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have "a permanent place to call HOME."

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telligence and performs at grade level Kenya is legally free for adoption and can be placed with any type of family. Kenya likes to spend time outdoors so it would be beneficial for her future home to have a yard she can play in. Kenya would like a family

that "looks" like her. She has expressed she

would like an African American family or a



25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550 Telephone (800) 367-9898 Fax (508) 764-8015 www.StonebridgePress.com

> FRANK G. CHILINSKI PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

RUTH DEAMICIS EDITOR



Last week we ran a submitted article on the front page of the Charlton Villager. The person who wrote it works as a journalist.

That would make it seem that one could lay odds on the integrity of the piece.

Not so much.

See, the timing was part of it.

While we must plan our newspaper to go to print so it will be in the hands of our readers in a timely fashion, only being a weekly and not a daily, we were already "wrapped" by Monday and actually not aware there were TWO more meetings on this topic within that same week; making the information in this submitted article outdated before it was even printed.

Not only that, while the editor did do some research on the facts as presented, time was short and we have been informed there was more, much more we need to know. More that was not included in the submitted article; more that was taken out of context; more that was not quite what it seemed.

We keep hearing the words bandied about: fake news.

We won't go quite that far.

Maybe stretched news to suit a purpose. And the Villager was used to extend that reach.

We don't feel good about that, and we apologize to our readers for it.

We also gave space on our front page this week to a different submission, someone who has researched from a different perspective, and who attended both those meetings.

We felt that was fair

UPPINEUR CHARITON CHARITON CHARITON DEDOT AND PR

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM CHARLTON, CHARLTON CITY, CHARLTON DEPOT AND BEYOND

TO THE EDITOR Walker: chance to ask questions

To the Editor:

In case you are up for a rest from the marijuana kurfuffel in Charlton, come the Board of Health meeting on July 31 at 6 p.m. Exxon-Mobile will be there to answer questions about the delay in the Exxon/Mobile water line.

If you remember, there was a meeting at the library about a month ago and rather than answer questions from the crowd, they had us go to one of three "stations" and ask questions.

Some of the residents were chagrined about not being able to ask as a group including me - and so we have invited EM reps to our meeting.

> KATHLEEN WALKER CHARLTON

you do with an inherited IRA?

What should



Retirement A c c o u n t s (IRAs) are quite popular. At the end of 2017, investors owned nearly \$9 trillion in

IRA assets, according to the Investment Company Institute, a trade association of U.S. investment companies. Given these numbers, it probably wouldn't be surprising if you inherited an IRA someday. But what should you do with it?

First of all, you'll need to be aware of some basic rules. If your parent, or anyone other than your spouse, leaves you a traditional IRA - one in which contributions are typically tax-deductible and earnings can grow tax-deferred – you can transfer the money into an 'inherited IRA," from which you'll need to take at least a minimum amount of money – technically called a "dis-tribution" – each year, based on your life expectancy. These distributions are taxable at your regular income tax rate. If you've inherited a Roth IRA, you also must take these minimum payouts, but the amounts won't count as taxable income, because your parents, or whoever left you the IRA, already paid taxes on the contributions that went into it. (To make sure you fully understand all the guidelines on distributions and taxation of inherited IRAs, consult with your tax advisor.)

It's also important to understand how your inherited IRA will fit in to your overall financial strategy. Consequently, you'll need to address these questions:

How much should I take out each year? As mentioned above, you must take a distribution of at least a minimum amount from your inherited IRA each year - if you don't, you may be subject to a 50% penalty on the amount you should have taken. But you can take out more than the minimum. In deciding how much to take, you'll need to evaluate a few factors. First, of course, is whether you need the extra money to help support your regular cash flow. It's possible you have other pools of income from which to draw, and, in some cases, it may be advantageous for you to tap these sources first. Another consideration is taxes - if you've inherited a traditional IRA, the more you take out each year, the bigger your tax bill may be.

Noble: democracy in action

To the Editor:

Voting is democracy in action, even when the vote doesn't go the way you want.

The definition of a democracy even has voting in it. A democracy is (a) government by the people; especially: rule of the majority and (b) a government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly through a system of representation usually involving periodically held free elections. (Merriam-Webster Unabridged Dictionary, 2018)

The people who reject the results of the November 8, 2016 Question 4 Ballot Initiative, (The Massachusetts Marijuana Legalization Initiative), people who call the honoring of that vote "moronic", are failing to understand the very basic doctrines of democracy. Every vote is equal, no one vote is more important or has more weight than another. To ignore the wishes of the majority in favor of an unhappy, often very loud, minority is to ignore democracy. This cannot and should not be allowed.

In every election, whether it be for a candidate or on an issue, there are winners and losers. I have lost elections of all sorts and I have won a few. Each time was an opportunity to learn. We teach our children that to lose gracefully is part of growing up. I think more people need to learn to lose gracefully and with maturity. I appreciate fighting for what you believe in, but one must follow the rules of democracy and decency. If we fail in both of those regards, or even one of them, then everyone in our community loses.

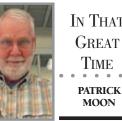
DEBORAH B. NOBLE CHARLTON

My opinions are my own and do not represent the views and opinions of town of Charlton or the Charlton Board of Selectmen.

A lens on the Stamp Shop

Isn't it strange that memories can be tied so strongly to an object? I was poking around in a box of random items and came upon two artifacts from yesteryear: a microscope lens, and a small packet of commemorative stamps. In that great

time, these objects carried significance beyond their utility.



the Scott's Stamp Catalog, explaining patiently as he matched stamps to their catalog image that you could learn about history and famous people from stamps.

"FDR was a stamp collector," he said solemnly.

IN THAT GREAT IN THAT GREAT IN THAT IN THAT

we left that was fair.

We also had our reporter do a piece on it, as he followed the Board of Selectmen's meeting.

So we hope we gave a bit more light on the topic.

And yes, it's a sticky subject. It's important people realize you cannot ignore the fact the state is allowing cannabis sales. The town must do something to regulate it or be subject to something jerry-rigged and probably much more harmful in the long run.

Leaving the bylaws as is will not work. It leaves the door open to having the shops and cultivation in a lot more places; not less.

And while both the planning board and the selectmen agree more work and amendments might need to be done, it should be done with time, and thought, and effort. Not in a panic mode. And certainly not to placate naysayers who feel justified in using scare tactics to get their way.

Be cautious. Read for yourself; and read from both sides. Even if you agree wholeheartedly with one position, it doesn't hurt to know how others think.

And you just might learn something useful. When we lived in Japan, I learned that my father was not an ordinary soldier but a Lieutenant who did research in tropical medicine, specifically on two diseases: schistosomiasis and malaria. Even my younger sisters could answer the question "What does your father do?" with an explanation of parasitology. Jody, the five year old, would proudly repeat my father's words: "And we are his favorite parasites!"

I often accompanied my father to the 406th Medical General Laboratory on Saturday mornings. He would check on his Petri dishes and I was free to examine the collection of internal parasites in the medical archive. When he was not recording data, my father would explain the life cycle of the malaria plasmodium or the various methods that researchers used to try and intervene in the spread of these deadly diseases. By age nine, I could use an oil emersion lens on a microscope, and feed my father's mosquitoes on rabbit ears for his malaria studies. I grew used to the foul smelling lab in Japan, but how did just handling the lens cause such a rush of memories?

The mind is such a puzzle.

And here was a small packet of used commemorative stamps.

Michael!

Michael lived in the officer housing behind us in Washington Heights. He was older, an only child, and he "adopted" me as a younger brother. Once he pulled his stamp collection onto his large dining room table. He showed me Later that day, I accompanied Mike and his mother to a Japanese stamp shop off the base. I memorized the route. When I had accumulated enough Japanese yen a few weeks later, I rode my Schwinn to the guarded camp gate and waited until the guards were busy with a truck delivery. I flew out the gate, ignored the guard's yelling at me to return, and made my way to the stamp shop.

There followed a routine repeated every other weekend for the next year. Yoroki-san would bow when she saw me in her store and I would smile and bow back. I would show her my money. She would glance at it and bring me to a section of the wall that was covered in glass line envelopes displaying stamps. She outlined a section in pantomime, and anything within the specified range was a potential purchase. Eventually I could calculate the ven equivalence to the colorful military script used on base and began to barter with her as I had seen other customers do. Thus began my slow but steady accumulation of triangular stamps from Monaco, oversized stamps from the Vatican, and many stamps commemorating the history of the United States.

The stamps were one of my first forays into the world without parental oversight. I was eight years old, had a business relationship with a Japanese shopkeeper, and I had learned how to dodge authorities in uniform. With my increased baseball skills under Mike's tutelage, I was a man of the world. Should I keep the same investments? Inheriting an IRA doesn't mean you're stuck with the original account owner's investment choices. You can change the investments to align with your goals and risk tolerance, both of which may change over time.

How does the inherited IRA fit in with my overall financial strategy? You'll need to consider how your newly inherited IRA fits in to the "big picture" of your financial strategy. Are you adding redundancies? If you keep the inherited IRA largely intact, how will it affect your current investment mix? Could the added income from required distributions change your retirement calculations or even enable you to retire earlier? You may want to consult with a financial professional about these and other questions related to your inherited IRA.

The person who left you an IRA worked hard for that money and thought enough of you to pass it on. Consequently, you'll want to respect this inheritance – and get the most out of it for as long as you can.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Jeff Burdick, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or jeff.burdick@edwardjones.com.

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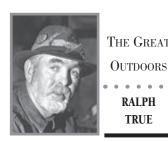
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Bad weather slows down some fishing but helps in other cases





Mark True with the salmon from the Ouabbin Reservoir.



I spoke with Alisa at Snug Harbor Marina this past weekend about fishing reports at Block island and around the beaches. She is always very informative, and takes the time to give accurate reports. She reported that striper fishing remained strong at Block and inshore as well. Mackerel are still in the area, which should keep the bass fishing strong. The heavy weath-

RALPH
TRUEer of this past week
could slow the fishing
for a few days. Big eye
and yellow fin tuna
were hitting well at the
Canyon prior to the
bad weather, as well as
some giants last week.
Bottom fishing for
seabass last week was
strong, but fluke slowed
a bit. Fluke fishing at the
Hooter was the meet pro-

Hooter was the most productive last week. Plenty of blue sharks are also being caught on a daily basis at the regular hot spots.

Red Top Bait & Tackle reported a few slow days this past week at the Canal, but the upcoming new moon should change that. Fluke and seabass fishing remained strong with some impressive fish being caught from

boats. Knowing were to fish and the proper "FRESH" bait is a deadly combination.

This past week my brother Ken and his son Mark returned back to the Quabbin Res. to do some more fishing for lake trout and salmon at gate 8 This trip rewarded the two anglers with a very productive day on the water, catching numerous lake trout and four salmon. The largest salmon weighed in at a cool 4 1/2 pounds and measured out at 26 inches. Using wire line to get the live bait down a few feet caught lake trout, but when my brother Ken decided to try a tandem gray ghost streamer, they started to catch salmon. I sure do miss fishing the

Quabbin Res. but because of the strict regulations on washing boats, and the high price to have the boat washed, it has kept myself and many anglers away. The best way to go is to rent a boat & motor at the site, but fishing in a small boat for this writer's ageing body is out of the question. This week's first picture shows Mark True with his impressive salmon.

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club will hold their archery shoot this Sunday at the club grounds on West Street. The event is open to the public and a full breakfast will be served starting at 7 a.m. The archery course is in great shape and Chairman Noel Rabidor is hoping for a good turnout. Full size targets of deer, bear, wild turkey, etc. will make the day in the outdoors with fellow archers a day to remember. This week's second picture shows a young fawn hiding out in the cover, but was captured in the photo this week by my brother Ken True. There were a pair of them in the area.

Ken True caught this photo of an elusive fawn hiding in cover.

Fresh water bass anglers are catching some impressive fish in local ponds. One pond gave up three largemouth bass to a group of anglers this past week, that weighed in at more than 5 lbs. each! Anglers fishing for bass during early morning and evening hours are finding it to produce the best. The hottest surface running stick bait that this writer used back many years ago, was called the Slim Jim. A spinner on the back and on the front made the surface running lure something the bass could not resist. Live bait is also producing some nice bass locally.

Fly rodders can also enjoy some great fishing for bluegills using small surface poppers. This hard fighting fish also provides some great table fare. It is also a great way to get a youngster hooked on fishing. Give it a try.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!!



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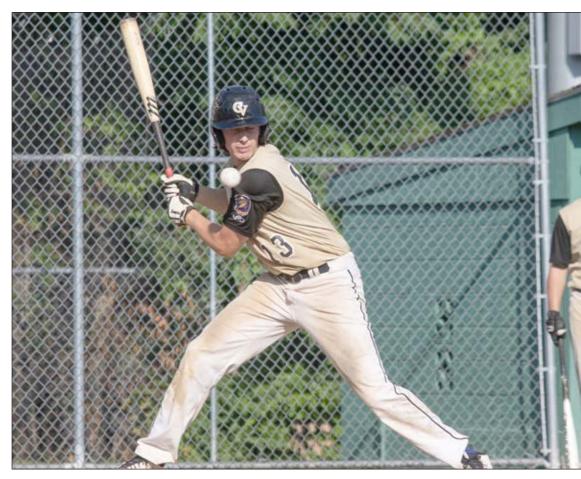


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SPORTS

Cherry Valley sees season end with back-and-forth loss to Milford



Mathew S. Plamondon photos

Cherry Valley's Cam Hart takes the pitch off his shoulder for a free ride to first base.

BY NICK ETHIER SPORTS STAFF WRITER

MILFORD — With the lead seemingly changing hands every half inning or so, the Cherry Valley Post 443 and Milford Post 59 American Legion baseball teams were engaged in a seesaw affair at Fino Field on Friday, July 20.

The game, a Zone 4 Samko Playoff elimination matchup, saw sixth seeded Cherry Valley strike first for a run in the top of the first inning, with No. 3 Milford countering in the bottom half. Post 59 then took a 2-1 lead in the bottom of the second, only for Post 443 to score single runs in the tops of the third and fourth frames to go ahead, 3-2. Milford then scored a pair in the bottom of the fourth to regain the lead again, 4-3.

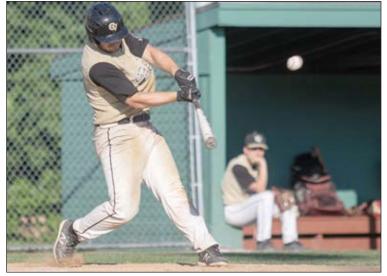
Cherry Valley's arms then tired, though, and Post 59 scored three runs in the fifth and once more in the sixth to win an 8-3 decision. Post 443's season ended there with a record of 15-12.

"Kustigian is a little bulldog, he pitches well," Cherry Valley manager Jim Stephens said of his starter, Chris Kustigian. "But we know his pitch count is around the middle 70's. Everything starts getting up [in the zone] and they start hitting him."

Kustigian battled through

the first four innings, surrendering four runs on eight hits with three strikeouts and a walk. He gave way to Joel Erickson in the bottom of the fifth and Erickson -"who hadn't pitched in 10 days because he was in Mexico," according to Stephens retired the first two batters he faced before walking the next three. With the bases loaded, No. 9 hitter Chris Brunt doubled down the left field line, scoring two. Shawn Rebello (2 for 3, 2 RBI) then followed with an RBI single into right field.

Post 443's Nate Shoemaker then finished off the fifth inning on the hill and also worked the sixth, where Post 59 scored a



Ryan Sanderson of Cherry Valley swings away and rips the ball into play.

run on an error.

Cherry Valley, meanwhile, stranded five runners over the final three innings without getting a run across home plate. They were able to get on base throughout, but could only provide single runs in the first, third and fourth innings. Ryan Sanderson hit a sacrifice fly in the first, Kustigian hit a slow roller that resulted in an error and a run scored, and Jason Panient laced an RBI triple into the left-center field gap.

"We left 11 runners on base. There were golden opportunities," Stephens said of what could have been.

Milford then lost to Shrewsbury Post 397 later in the night to conclude its season. Shrewsbury and Leominster Post 151 are set to play for the Zone 4 championship, which will conclude after press time.

The season was an overall success for Cherry Valley, though. They started 1-3 and then went 13-7 down the stretch to easily reach the eight-team playoffs as the sixth seed, where they finished five games ahead of the eighth place finisher, Northbridge Post 343.

"This is what we've been shooting for for years," said Stephens, as Cherry Valley made the playoffs for the first time in their eight years as a program. "This was the first time the college kids came back and committed."

Those college players were Evan Fritze (Worcester State University), Ryan Sanderson (Quinsigamond Community College) and Cam Hart (Elms College).

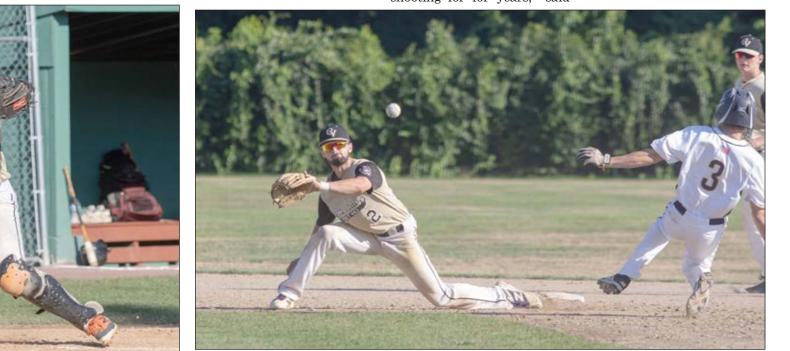
"I'm losing four kids off this squad," Stephens added, noting that pitcher Brendan McKeon will turn 19 before the cutoff.

Stephens praised assistant coach Joel Hart for getting his son, Cam Hart, as well as Fritze and Sanderson to play Legion ball after their first college season.

"He was major [to our success]," Stephens said of Joel Hart.

Stephens is hoping that his players that recently graduated from high school will return to play next summer as well. Ace pitcher Tyrus Garvin is a prime candidate.

"He's a kid that's going off to college," Stephens said of Garvin. "If he comes back he'll be one of the leaders, and that's what you need."





Michael Bordeaux of Cherry Valley springs up to make a throw down to second base.

Cherry Valley's Evan Fritz gets low to receive a throw at second base.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Annual Saint-Jean-Baptiste Educational Foundation golf Tournament comes to Pleasant Valley

The 22nd annual Saint-Jean-Baptiste Educational Foundation golf tournament is now set for Monday, Aug. 20 at Sutton's Pleasant Valley Country Club. This is a change from the original date of Monday, July 23 due to the weather conditions. The cost is \$150 per person — twosomes and singles are welcome — and there will be a hole-in-one contest as well as a putting contest, door prizes and a special golfers raffle. There will be 18 holes of golf on a PGA and LPGA course with valet parking, bag handling services, unlimited use of the driving range, and chipping and putting areas prior to the 10 a.m. shotgun start, Florida-style scramble. Early registration begins at 8 a.m. with carts with bag rain covers, a gift bag, coffee, continental breakfast and snacks. An executive buffet dinner follows the tournament. For

additional information and registration please call Ken (Golf Committee) at (508) 277- 5314 or Ted (Foundation Trustee) at (508) 764-7909.

Running Out of Summer 5k Sturbridge road race to benefit Second Chance Animal Services

WORCESTER — Wormtown Milers and Rapscallion Brewery are pleased to announce 9Round Worcester as the naming sponsor of the inaugural Running Out Of Summer 5K to be held on Saturday, Aug. 25. The race, which begins and ends at Rapscallion Brewery in Sturbridge, benefits Second Chance Animal Services of Worcester and East Brookfield.

"We are extremely excited to be part of such a worthwhile event," commented Sheri Barrette, Owner of 9Round Worcester. "Not only does this event support animal welfare — a cause deeply important to me personally — but it also focuses on including fitness in a healthy lifestyle, a core value of 9Round Fitness."

The race was conceived by the Wormtown Milers and Rapscallion Brewery as a means to promote community, philanthropy and fun in south central Worcester county. The charity was chosen by asking Rapscallion Mug Club Members and Wormtown Milers members to vote for their charity of choice, with Second Chance being the overwhelming winner.

Participants in this inaugural event will enjoy a scenic, timed 5K race that is dog- and kid-friendly, and will also receive a tech shirt, medal, and a free beer specially brewed by Rapscallion for the event — the Running Out Of Summer Ale. The beer will be brewed in a very limited quantity, on tap solely on the day of the event and the evening prior during bib pick-up.

The race, which takes place at 10 a.m., caps at 300 runners. Those wishing to participate are encouraged to register early to avoid missing out on this memorable event. Register online at www.runningoutofsummer.racewire.com.

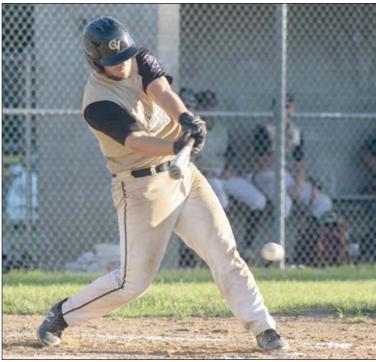
Kayak for a Cause comes to Sturbridge

The Cedar Lake Association's 2018 Kayak for a Cause is supporting the The Arc Center of Hope Foundation. The fundraising event will be on Sunday, Aug. 5 with registration at 9 a.m. and the event to follow at 10 at the Oxhead Beach at the Sturbridge Host Hotel. The fee is \$10 per kayak (or non-motorized boat). Donations can be made the day of the event or to the Center of Hope Foundation's fundraising link at www.thecenterofhope.org. Contact www.cedarlakeassociation.org or like us on Facebook for more information.

Central MA Crusaders Softball holding tryouts in Webster

The Central MA Crusaders Softball program — an organization dedicated to the growth and development of young players looking to take their game to the next level — is holding player tryouts. The U12 and U14 combined team is July 29 at 10 a.m. The U12 team is Aug. 5 at 10 a.m. The U14 team is Aug. 12 at 10 a.m. The tryouts will be held at the Bartlett High softball field in Webster. Any questions, contact centralmacrusaders@gmail. com. If interested in U10, please send email to the prior address.

EARLIER IN THE PLAYOFFS Post 443 scores early, stays alive with win over Framingham



Cherry Valley's Ryan Sanderson rips a base hit through the infield.

BY DEAN P. ST. LAURENT

OXFORD — Facing elimination in the American Legion Zone 4 Samko Playoffs, Cherry Valley Post 443 took advantage of a few first inning errors and put together timely hits to secure a tightly contested, 6-5 win over Framingham Post 74 on Thursday, July 19 at Greenbriar Park. Post 443 fell behind, 3-0, after a half inning of play but responded with six runs in the home half of the frame.

Cherry Valley, the sixth seed, lost to No. 3 Milford Post 59 a day earlier to send themselves into the elimination bracket to face No. 7 Framingham, who lost to Shrewsbury Post 397, the second seed.

"They played good, came up with a couple solid hits and took advantage of the errors they made in the first inning," Cherry Valley manager Jim

Stephens explained. "After they scored the three runs in the first inning we could've just sat down and not done anything, but they didn't. They went back out and scored six runs and held on."

Now in the top of the sixth inning with the bases loaded and one out for Framingham, Post 74 was in a prime spot to open the game up and really put Post 443 on the ropes facing elimination, but once again resilience from the Cherry Valley group showed.

In between pitches after catcher Michael Bordeaux received a fastball from closer Jason Panient, he noticed first baseman Cam Hart waving his glove near the bag. Bordeaux sent a perfect snap throw to Hart's glove to pick the Framingham runner off at first. This resulted in the second out of the inning and eliminated the threat of walking in the tying run from third. This play saved the game for Cherry Valley.

"We were in trouble and then he walked the first batter, you knew we were in trouble, but once again this team dug in and pulled something out of their hat," praised Stephens. "There is always something going on with these kids, they're tough, they dig in and they don't give up. They are tough and are all very smart baseball players. They know what is going to affect the team."

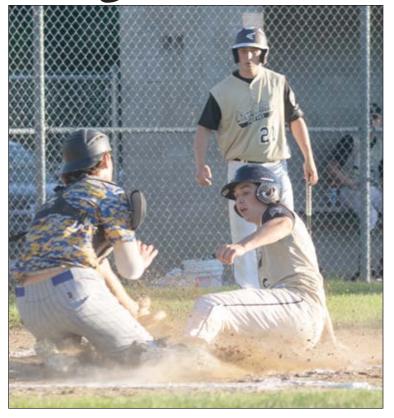
Panient finally got the final out to end the threatening inning when he got the Post 74 batter to ground out to short stop Evan Fritze.

Warmed up coming out in the seventh, Panient recorded the five out save with a blazing fast 1-2-3 inning. Tyrus Garvin and Panient combined for seven solid innings on the mound to advance Cherry Valley.

"Garvin pitched well," expressed Stephens. "Then at the end of the game he ran into a little trouble, but Jason came in. He has done this for us a few times now, he struggles a little bit, but when he gets his bearings he is right on. That last inning was a perfect example: bang, bang, bang."

Highlighting Cherry Valley's offense in the first inning was Bordeaux's blooper single to right field that barely got in due to a great effort play by the Framingham defender who tried to make a diving play on the ball. This was followed by a single from Nate Shoemaker and two batters later a line drive single right back where it came from Garvin. His single scored Cam Hart and Chris Kustigian to make it a 6-3 game in the bottom of the first.

Cherry Valley (15-11) must face Milford again in an elimination game, while Framingham finished 11-15.



Mathew S. Plamondon photos

Jeff Colena of Cherry Valley slides in at home for a run in the first inning.



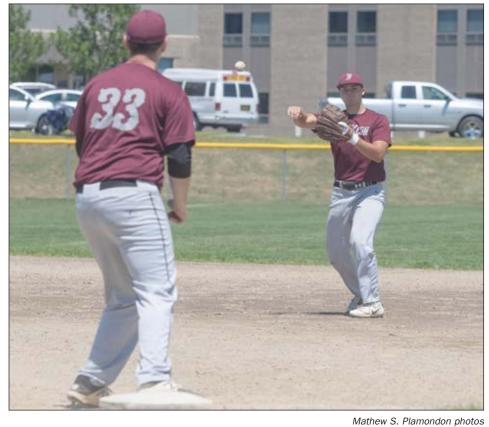
Jason Panient of Cherry Valley takes a throw at second base, making an out.

Rochdale closes CNEBA season with

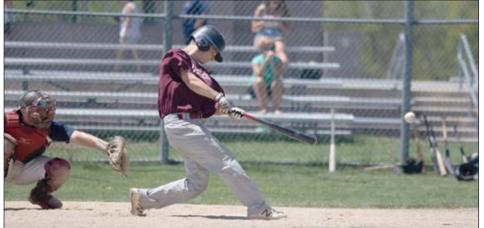
nail-biting playoff loss to Shrewsbury

SHREWSBURY — After a 7-21 regular season, the Rochdale FLEX con baseball team grabbed the sixth and final seed in the Central New England Baseball Association playoffs. And, having to face No. 3 Shrewsbury (18-11-1), Rochdale knew they were in for a tough best-of-three series.

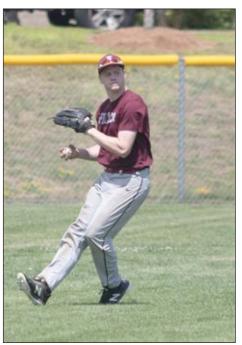
The series, played Saturday, July 21 at Shrewsbury High, saw Rochdale hang tough but ultimately fall. They lost Game 1, 7-1, and then fell just short in a well-played Game 2, 1-0. They finished 7-23, while Shrewsbury advanced to the CNEBA semifinals.



Rochdale's Chris Cutroni makes a throw from second base to record an out at first.



Connor Fahey of Rochdale rips a ball off the bat and into play.



left field and throws it back in



Danny Grummel of Rochdale fields the ball in Rochdale's Sam Knox winds up on the mound before tossing a pitch to the plate.



Rochdale's Travis Dinsdale slides safely into third base.

PLANNING BOARD

continued from page 1 Officer; and invited counsel Katherine Laughman, of the firm of Kopelman Attorney & Page. Laughman is an expert on land use and marijuana regulations in the state.

The purpose of the Planning Board hearing was to discuss the citizens petition to rescind the adoption of Article 27. which created a new zoning bylaw regulating marijuana establishments. The town of Charlton approved this bylaw at the recommendation of the Planning Board and the town's zoning commissioner at the 2018 annual town meeting warrant.

opening In her statements, Attorney Laughman, began with a description and history of cannabis legalization in Massachusetts. As she explained, it all began with Ballot Question 4 in the November 2016 vote to approve the legalization of marijuana within the state. In September of 2017 the Cannabis Control Commission was formed to regulate adult use marijuana in Massachusetts, including commercial cannabis licensing.

The cannabis law created a zoning issue for most towns. Under the standard of municipal town zoning, whatever is not listed in zoning regulations for specific property areas are prohibited. Under the State of Massachusetts cannabis rules cannabis can be cultivated or sold anywhere town zoning permits same like operations. In other words, when establishing a cannabis establishment, zoning does not follow exclusionary rules which has been the practice for all other zoning purposes.

Although, municipalities were given the right to regulate and site the location and number of establishmarijuana ments within its locality many towns misunderstood their zoning role requirements if they wished to regulate the locations of these establishments to only specific zones. The problem with cannabis zoning regulations, as it was enacted. was that municipalities

had to directly pass zoning regulations to control the specific siting of these establishments. If no cannabis zoning was established, you could literally site these establishments anywhere where current zoning allows and without special permits. It was and is confusing for many towns because cannabis zoning does not follow usual town zoning rules.

Under normal zoning regulations, zoning prohibits certain property uses if that specific use is not listed in the town zoning regulations. The state of Massachusetts passed legislation that required very specific town zoning actions to identify and site locations where cannabis could or could not be cultivated or retail sold. A town had to take proactive measures to modify their zoning rules to prohibit or restrict where cannabis would be allowed. In the town of Charlton those cannabis zoning land use regulations were established on May 21, 2018, with the passing of warrant 27.

Prior to the passing of this bylaw, there were no restrictions as to the number and placement of cannabis establishments. If rescinded, cultivation on any agricultural land of five acres or more and retail within any retail allowed zoned locations could not be regulated. In the words of our zoning commissioner, "It would be like the Wild West" referring to a gold rush mentality. Specifically, to rescind does not mean that cannabis is banned in town. Going back to the original bylaws, where as cannabis was not regulated or specifically zoned out, means cannabis by right is allowed under the then existing zoning land use regulations. This means if you want to install a greenhouse on your property, no matter where it is located or zoned, you will have the right to do that. Our zoning will revert back to the pre-May 21 town meeting zoning rules and as a result cannabis will be an allowed activity in every zone in Charlton. Cannabis will be allowed everywhere.

Planning Board member Alycia Dzik, asked the question, where would

marijuana be allowed to grow using our existing town zoning regulations. Attorney Laughman responded that the cultivation of cannabis would be allowed in agricultural use lands. This was met with groans and comments from the audience, including a com-ment that she "should look that one up".

Attorney Laughman continued to explain that cannabis can be cultivated on agricultural use land, however, if specifically regulated zoning is enacted, then that land use could be controlled.

Rydlak PB Chair informarequested tion about amending the existing bylaw. It was explained that the amendment must remain within the narrow scope of the rescind motion. The problem is that to amend the existing bylaw would require a public hearing on the change requested prior to the August 1 meeting. If not examined publicly prior to the STM, the state of Massachusetts may choose to invalidate the amendment. The problem is that the petition specifically calls for the rescindment of the bylaw not the amendment of the bylaw.

The Planning Board explained that the original warrant was an attempt to limit cannabis establishments to the minimum allowed facilities allowed by the state; unfortunately the zoning warrant did not ultimately limit the number of establishment as it was poorly worded. Don Clay asked the attorney about the power the Planning Board has in limiting the size of incoming cannabis cultivators.

Attorney Laughman, stated the if he was referring to Valley Green Grow, VGG was not subject to the specific cannabis zoning regulations as it was submitted before zoning was enacted. VGG is subject to a zoning freeze under Section 40A paragraph 6 and not subject to future cannabis zoning.

In response to cultivators as of today, the zoning regulation requires special permits allowing the Planning Board more discretionary authority to regulate the size

of the establishment. Additionally, if the bylaw was rescinded, cannabis placement would only be determined by the town's former zoning bylaw, which does not limit the scope and size of any agricultural establishments and would not subject a cannabis establishment to Planning Board review.

Dzik, stated "that if this citizen's rescind petition goes through. we have lost a lot of control over incoming projects."

There seem to be some confusion with the hearing, after about 20 minutes of the board's discussion about the rescind topic, as the discussion left the topic of the citizens' petition and continued with specific questions about controlling the subdivision of Vallev Green Grow, an agricultural entity which has a host agreement with the town. These concerns were presented by board members to the attorney.

Questions included how we, as a board, can control the development of VGG, with Rydlak incorrectly classifying VGG as a manufacturing facility and not an agricultural cultivator. Rydlak continued with expressing the need to protect her neighbors from a gigantic facility that is going to replace the historic apple orchard at 44 Old Worcester Road.

Dzik then asked "What is our power?"

The attorney reminded the board that their power was not a discretionary power. If the establishment meets the zoning requirement they must approve the plan. The Board's power is limited to the power of condition (use). The conditions of use are to make sure that the operation fits into site plan criteria as regulated in site plan bvlaw.

Questioning then went to the ban on recreational marijuana establishments including the cultivation, processing and sale of recreational marijuana and whether with this criteria, Valley Green Grow could be controlled and regulated. The attorney once more reminded the board that VGG is not subject to current or future cannabis bylaws. Furthermore,

the Attorney General has taken a stance that a zoning restriction on a specific land use is a more appropriate means of control versus an outright ban, and would question the validity of a zoning bylaw regulation that is rescinded and then followed with an action to enact an outright ban.

The board opened the meeting to the public, reminding the public that only the subject of rescinding article 27 were to be entertained. Various members of the community asked questions about the consequences of rescinding the zoning warrant. Questions were raised about the validity of growing cannabis on agricultural land and discussion about how to stop Valley Green Grow at Charlton Orchards continued to be discussed.

Concerns that the VGG project were not fitting properly in the current zoning was at issue with the citizens present. Specifically, co-generation of electricity to power the greenhouses and noise were discussed. Curt Meskus. zoning commissioner, told the Planning Board that we already have a large co-generation facility at the Masonic Home that would dwarf the proposed co-gen proposed by VGG. No one has complained about it and no one hears it. Co-generation facilities are vetted by the DEP and various town boards. The VGG opposition group, calling themselves by the name Preserve Charlton's Character also challenged the land

use using the argument that manufacturing or light industrial use in an approved agricultural zone use. Laughman explained that ancillary uses in agriculture include manufacturing, processing, retail and other uses. Meskus continued by stating that the agricultural designation is only a name assigned to an area. It has nothing to do with growing crops or raising livestock.

"We allow all sorts of things in the agricultural zone. We allow dwellings, residential developments, private schools, day care centers, hotels, recreational facilities for

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gainful profit. Nothing in our bylaws says that the agricultural zone was for single family homes only," he explained.

He also goes on to state, "Nothing in our zoning bylaw tells you what a type of building is, it's what's going on in that building. Just because it is a metal skinned building doesn't make it anything. The use in that building is what governs my decisions."

Meskus and Laughman were clear with the and attendees the Planning Board that Massachusetts General Laws do not prohibit marijuana cultivation or any other marijuana establishment from doing business on agricultural zoned land. The section of the General Laws quoted (40A Sec 3) makes clear that for growing cannabis on agricultural land, the land owner will not enjoy the freedom of being exempt from zoning ordinance or by-laws. More than a year ago, the Massachusetts Board of **Building Regulations and** Standards, BBRS, recognized that cannabis can be grown and cultivated on agricultural land, unrestricting greenhouses for the cultivation of cannabis from the more intensive building code.

VGG is under no cannabis zoning regardless of what the town of Charlton will enact in current or future cannabis zoning regulations. VGG is protected due to a zoning freeze which will be available to VGG for the next eight years.

In conclusion, the Planning Board voted unanimously not to support the citizens petition to rescind Article 27, Marijuana Zoning Bylaws. They concluded that keeping the current bylaw in place provided protection to town citizens until a new amendment to Article 27 could be presented at the fall town meeting.

It is now up to the town to see it the way the Planning Board and Zoning Officer have described or in about an hour's time at the special town meeting the opposition to VGG will turn this town upside down with the possible rescinding of Article 27, Marijuana Zoning Bylaws.

ARTICLE 27

continued from page **1**

noting that selectmen had no part in bringing the article forward.

"The selectmen had no role in this. None," McGrath said revealing he brought a timeline document to show the process the article underwent on the way to town meeting.

"I think some of the facts were missed. The timeline shows that before the public hearing everything went through everybody and the changes were made before (the Planning Board) had a public hearing. The article that went before the town to be approved was the exact one the Planning Board had the hearing on. I don't know where the thought process came from that this wasn't the case, but this is the case. This is the factual timeline of what happened. That bylaw that went to town meeting was not changed by anybody after the Planning Board's public hearing.'

Planning Board Chair Patricia Rydlak acknowledged the Planning Board made an error and "missed the ball" when they voted on the article believing it contained certain limitations that were not present in the proposal.

"When we voted, the whole entire board was under the assumption that we were allowing safe facilities, end of story, and only three because we were told that was the minimum that we



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MB17-NM008Ec

could go," Rydlak said.

"We're all on the same page there. All of us keep our records and I just don't have that final version that was handed to us as the meeting where we voted to approve and I'm not saying that anything inappropriate happened. I'm saving all of us are a little confused on how it went from here to there.'

Rydlak and several other planning board members admitted they had also leaned heavily on input from former Town Planner Alan Gordon, who retired in 2017 and that it's possible they missed something without Gordon's keen eye and breaking down of the document.

"It's not on anybody else. I don't know what else to say. We're just surprised at what went through," Rydlak said.

McGrath stated selectmen were concerned because they were getting the brunt of the frustration from members of the public, who feel the article they approved was not in their best interest.

"We were getting blamed in public on social media and in the paper for making changes to this thing that we have absolutely nothing to do with," McGrath said. "I have always tried, no matter where I sat, to not shoot from the hip and I think that happened this time. I request that next time before we shoot from the hip we make sure we have all the facts and that we listen to the Town Planner who knows the exact timeline and we make sure what we're saying is correct."

Despite concerns there were changes to the article before its presentation on May 21, recordings of both the April meeting of the Planning Board and the May annual town meeting do in fact contain readings of the same document unchanged despite weeks of separation between the two meeting. These videos are available for public viewing on the TVCharlton YouTube channel. Planning board members have said they intended the regulation to be more restrictive.

After the discussion with selectmen ended and the town meeting scheduled for Aug. 1, the planning board continued their conversation about Article 27 during their own meeting the following night, July 18, and voted unanimously not to support the proposed recession of Article 27. The July 18 meeting included input from town counsel Katherine Laughman who explained that rescinding the article would allow any number of marijuana facilities into the town limited only by the zoning regulations as they apply to any other business in Charlton.

"If a community has not put into place regulations specific to these marijuana uses then the uses are still deemed allowed and they are allowed under your existing zoning classifications," Laughman said. "If that regulatory zoning is rescinded it doesn't mean that marijuana is prohibited or banned within the town. It simply means that you're going to revert to your existing land use classifications. It's going to become a use specific analysis and it's going to go basically to the building commissioner for those determinations. Presumably the cultivation uses would go under the agricultural classification. Retail would go where retail would be allowed."

Regardless of what takes place on Aug. 1, Laughman said the controversial Valley Green Grow proposal won't be affected because it is exempt from Article 27 and future zoning actions as the preliminary site plan was filed in April prior to the zoning change at the spring town meeting.

The idea of rescinding Article 27 was frowned upon by planning board members even though they publicly stated the article is not what they expected it to be. Members expressed concern that rescinding the zoning law without replacing it with something better in the process would essentially eliminate any specific zoning regarding marijuana businesses. Rydlak said the zoning law at least puts something in place for the town to turn too while board member Alycia Dzik said she'd like to see the law remain until a better proposal is presented.

"I would like to see a better one go to town meeting because my fear is that people will pass it with the assumption that they are nixing marijuana completely and what they're nixing is zoning for marijuana," Dzik said. "I'm not saying we shouldn't fix it, I just don't think this is the good fix. I'd like to see a better bylaw go to a special town meeting. I just don't think this is the one to do it."

The Planning Board said their idea would be to leave Article 27 intact while they formulate a better zoning proposal for consideration in the fall.

6096E-0917

OBITUARIES

George J. Hughes, 75



WEBSTER- George J. Hughes, 75, passed away Thursday, July 19, 2018 into the Loving Arms of his Lord, Jesus Christ. He leaves his wife of 24 years, Susan

Of 24 years, Susan C. (Emens) Hughes, his father-in-law, Nathaniel Emens of Middleboro, two sisters in law: Naney, Chadwick, and

sisters-in-law; Nancy Chadwick and her husband Hartland of Wareham and their son Benjamin of North Dartmouth, and Ruth Schuler and her husband Robert of Middleboro. A nephew, Lucien Lovelle of Mattapoisett, and a niece, Margaret Molnar of West Virginia.

George was predeceased by his mother-in-law, Marian (Kaye) Emens and also joined by his faithful companion Tornado.

He also leaves his devoted dog companions Deano and Windy.

George was born in Sumter, South Carolina on May 12, 1943, son of the late George and Doris Marie (Moore)

Hughes and was raised in Philadelphia. He attended Northeastern University, enjoyed movies, friends and family and riding the bus, train and subway. He was a devoted member of the Charlton Baptist Church and very proud of his Philly upbringing. He worked many years at the Holden School in Charlestown, prior to his retirement several years ago.

There are no calling hours.

A 'Celebration of George's Life' was Tuesday, July 24, 2018 at 11 AM at the Charlton Baptist Church, 50 Hammond Hill Rd. in Charlton. Burial will be private in Mt. Zion Cemetery in Webster.

The family suggests that flowers be omitted and would like everyone to spend time with their family and take them out to dinner and be together.

The ROBERT J. MILLER-OXFORD FUNERAL HOME, 247 Main St., is honored to be assisting George's family with arrangements.

To express a condolence or share a memory of George, please visit:RJMillerfunerals.net

Janet M. Hammond, 76



C H A R L T O N -Janet M. (Morris) Hammond, 76, of J. Davis Rd., passed away in her home on Thursday, July 19th, in her home.

She leaves her husband of 50 years, Franklin

D. Hammond; her son, Franklin A. Hammond of Charlton and his wife Carla of Charlton; her daughter, Melinda Burlingame and her husband Bruce of Charlton; her brother, James Morris of Oxford; and her three grandchildren, Brent Burlingame, Kyle Burlingame and Alissa Burlingame. She was born in Worcester, the daughter of Fenwick and Maron (Ghizzi) Morris.

Janet was the Town Treasurer for the Town of Charlton for over 30 years before retiring many years ago. She was a longtime member of St. Joseph's Church in Chartlon. She enjoyed cooking, baking and doing word search puzzles. Most of all Janet enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren, attending her grandsons baseball games and watching her granddaughter, Alissa, dance.

Her funeral was held on Monday, July 23rd, at 12:00pm in St. Joseph's Church, 10 H. Putnam Rd. Ext., Charlton. Burial followed in Northside Cemetery, Charlton. Calling hours for Janet were held on Monday, July 23rd, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in St. Joseph's Church prior to the Mass.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Epilepsy Foundation, 8301 Professional Place Suite 200, Landover, MD 20785, in honor of Janet's granddaughter Alissa.

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Phyllis A. Slattery, 88



CHARLTON-Phyllis A. Slattery 88, of

and grew up at 64 Chapel St. in Leicester. Her brothers Joseph, William, Howard, and Clifford Stanikmas and her sisters Mary-Ellen Stanikmas, Elizabeth Lemerise, and Joyce Dowd predeceased her.

She graduated from Leicester High School in 1948 and earned a B.S. In Education from Worcester State College in 1952. She taught in the Leicester and Worcester public schools. In the 1970's she earned a Master of Library Science degree and became a school librarian in the Worcester public schools and later at Clark University's Goddard Library, where she worked for several years.



Dug Hill Rd., passed away on Thursday, July 19th, in Wingate at Hampden Nursing Home, Hampden, after a long illness. Her husband,

Her husband, Rosario A. Peck,

passed away in 2014. She leaves her daughter, Diane Penland of Sturbridge; her four sons, Michael J. Peck and his wife Linda of Sturbridge, David A. Peck and his wife Lynn of Sturbridge, Trevor A. Peck and his wife Wendy of Wales and Glen S. Peck of Wales; a close niece, Linda Parzych of Vermont; her close friend, Gloria Curboy of Charlton;12 grandchildren; 4 great grandchildren; 1 great great grandchild; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased

> LEICESTER – John A. Jacques, 60, of Leicester passed away on Tuesday, July 17, 2018, at Saint Vincent Hospital.

> John is survived by his wife of 38 years, Denise E. (Gardner) Jacques; a son,

Matthew D. Jacques of Leicester and his girlfriend, Tessa Lavallee; two daughters, Jennifer L. Covello and her husband Michael of Woodstock, CT and Jessica E. Jacques of Leicester; his mother, Paolina (Aureli) Jacques of Leicester; a brother, Luigi Jacques and his wife Marilyn of Shrewsbury; two sisters, Margaret Westgate of Auburn and Rose Bauckman and her longtime partner John Dicken of Leicester; five grandchildren, Tyler, Keegan, Addison, Aurora and Jordyn and many nephews and nieces.

Gloria V. Peck, 85 HOLLAND- Gloria V. (White) Peck, 85, of by her son-in-law, Clay Penland, and her sister, Theresa Hendrick. She was

by her son-in-law, Clay Penland, and her sister, Theresa Hendrick. She was born in Southbridge the daughter of Edward F. and Rebecca (Lepain) White.

Gloria enjoyed doing crafts and going out to lunch with her cousin, Gloria. Most of all she enjoyed spending time with her family.

Calling hours for Gloria will be held on Friday, July 27th, from 9:00 to 11:00am in the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a service to follow in the funeral home at 11:00am. Burial in Holland Cemetery, Holland, will be held at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 309 Waverley Oaks Rd., Waltham, MA 02452.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

John A. Jacques, 60



R – John 60, of sed away
July 17, Vincent
Vincent
John was born in Pordenone, Italy son of the late James P. Jacques Sr. and was predeceased by his son Adam J. Jacques, who died in 2017.
Mr. Jacques graduated from Burncoat High School and worked for over 25

High School and worked for over 25 years at the Wright Line Company in Worcester. He thoroughly enjoyed cooking, gardening, and fishing. John could often be found watching western movies, especially ones with John Wayne.

Memorial calling hours are Saturday, August 11, 2018 from 12 – 3 p.m. at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St. Oxford. A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. at the conclusion of calling hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the John Jacques Memorial Fund at https://www.gofundme.com/ john-jacques-memorial-fund.

paradisfuneralhome.com

Robert C. 'Bob' Butler, 65



CHARLTON- Robert C. 'Bob' Butler, 65, passed away Thursday, July 19, 2018 at Harrington Memorial Hospital in Southbridge.

His wife, Constance E. 'Connie' (Brodeur) Butler died September

22, 2006. He leaves a son, Benjamin Butler of Southbridge and a great grandson, Jamie Butler, his parents; Clarence N. and June M. (Snay) Butler of Charlton, his brothers and sisters; David Butler, Donna Williams of Charlton, Billy Butler of Sturbridge and Cathy Cloutier nephews. He was predeceased by a brother James J. 'Buzz' Butler who died September 22, 2010.

Bob was born in Webster, March 4, 1953 and lived in Charlton most of his life.

He graduated from the former Charlton High School and was a member of St. Joseph's Church and enjoyed music and animals.

There are no calling hours.

Burial in West Ridge Cemetery in Charlton will be private.

The ROBERT J. MILLER-CHARLTON FUNERAL HOME, 175 Old Worcester Rd. is assisting Bob's family with arrangements.

To send a message of condolence,

88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton and Formerly of 6 Uxbridge St, Worcester, passed away on June 30 under the care of Overlook Hospice Services. Her husband, John R. Slattery, predeceased her in 2010. She leaves her daughter, Kathleen Allard of Hong Kong, and her nephew Kim Lemerise and his wife Nancy of Boylston, nephew Mark Lemerise and his wife Donna of Spencer, nephew Frank Lemerise and his wife Tammy of Spencer, niece Lisa Fischer and her husband Kurt of Arlington, niece Andrea Thurlow and her husband David of Leicester, and several other nieces and nephews.

She was born Emily P. Stanikmas in Worcester, daughter of the late Anthony V. and Mary Ellen (Hollings) Stanikmas, As a test subject in the national Women's Health Initiative for decades, Phyllis contributed to numerous studies of women's health and wellness.

There was a memorial service at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, July 23 at Nordgren Funeral Home 300 Lincoln St. Worcester, MA 01605, followed by burial of Phyllis and her husbands remains in St. John's Cemetery in Worcester. Donations may be made in her name to the Charlton Public Library. For directions or to leave the family an online message of condolence, please visit Nordgrenmemorialchapel.com of Charlton and several nieces and please visit:RJMillerfunerals.net



Send all obituary notices to Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail to jean@stonebridgepress.news

CALENDAR

Saturday July 28

Tie Dye: Hayloft Steppers dance on Saturday, July 28 from 8:00 pm to 10:30 pm (early Rounds at 7:30). The caller will be National Caller Jet Roberts and the cuer will be Roy Williams. Admission is \$10 per person. The club is located at 232 Podunk Road in Sturbridge. For more information please contact: Moe Bracken (508) 344-3430 or brackenmaurice@gmail.com

Sunday July 29

Advanced Level Hayloft Steppers dance on Sunday, July 29th from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm (No Rounds). The caller will be National Caller Jet Roberts. Admission is \$10 per person. The club is located at 232 Podunk Road in Sturbridge. For more information please contact: Moe Bracken (508) 344-3430 or brackenmaurice@gmail.com

STURBRIDGE FARMERS MARKET: Sturbridge Farmers Market every Sunday June 24 until September 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Live music from noon until 2 p.m.

Thursday August 2 Sturbridge concerts on

THE COMMON 2018 Concerts on the Common Summer Concert Series, 6-8 p.m. August 2- Island Castaways (Summer Music) Sponsored by Savers Bank

Saturday August 4

CHURCH YARD SALE: On Saturday, Aug. 4, the Charlton City United Methodist Church will be having its annual Yard Sale from 8AM to 2PM. Come find your treasure in our huge downstairs treasure box. There will be knick knacks, household items, some furniture and so much more. We are located at 74 Stafford St., Charlton. See you on Saturday, August 4th.

Sunday August 5

STURBRIDGE FARMERS MARKET: Sturbridge Farmers Market every Sunday June 24 until September 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Live music from noon until 2 p.m.

Thursday August 9

STURBRIDGE CONCERTS ON THE COMMON 2018 Concerts on the Common Summer Concert Series, 6-8 p.m. August 9- LA's Backstage Pass ('80s Rock Tribute) Sponsored by Sturbridge Tourist Association

Thursday August 16

STURBRIDGE CONCERTS ON THE COMMON 2018 Concerts on the Common Summer Concert Series,

6-8 p.m. August 16- The Real Deal (Rock n Roll) Sponsored by Sturbridge Orthodontics

Thursday August 23

STURBRIDGE CONCERTS ON THE COMMON 2018 Concerts on the Common Summer Concert Series, 6-8 p.m. Final concert of the season August 23- Glenwood Mills Band with Mark Chevalier (Blues, Rock, R&B) Sponsored by Sturbridge Cultural Council

Sunday September 9

STURBRIDGE PLANNING HALF-MARATHON: a half-marathon road race to honor Sturbridge resident and ESPN's ESPY award winner, Rick Hoyt will be held on Sept. 9 at 10:00 a.m. Registration page can be found at: https://app.racereach.com/event/ the-rick-hoyt-sturbridge-half-marathon. If you have questions about the event or wish to participate, please contact Kevin Filchak at kfilchak@town. sturbridge.ma.us

Month of October

PUMPKINS! The Pumpkins are Coming! The Pumpkins are Coming! Spread the word that the best place to get your fall decorations is at the Sturbridge Federated Church where the best pumpkins and gourds will be for the month of October. Proceeds will benefit the ministries of the church including Habitat for Humanity, St. Luke's Guesthouse, and the Navajo reservation.

Turn To CALENDAR page A16



CALENDAR

continued from page A15

ONGOING

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP: third Wednesday each month, 6-7 p.m. at the Overlook Independent Living Building, fourth floor Solarium, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton. The intent is to build a support system, exchange practical information, talk through issues and ways of coping, share feelings, needs and concerns and to learn about community resources. Contact Kathy Walker at (508) 434-2551 or kawalker@overlook-mass.org for more information. Presented by Alzheimer's Association MA/NH Chapter, visit (800) 272-3900 or alz.org.

NUMISMATICS: Looking for a new hobby? Come learn about the hobby of coin collecting. Or maybe you are an old time collector. Our club, the Nipmuc Coin Club, has both. We learn from each other through our monthly guest speakers, show and tell presentations, monthly coin auctions and free attendance prizes. Our group loves to share their knowledge with each other. About half of our members also like to eat. Each month we have a simple dinner with dessert and refreshments just prior to our meeting, which allows us time to socialize too. We meet the fourth Wednesday of each month starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Oxford Senior Center located at 323 Main St. in Oxford. It is the building directly behind the Oxford Town Hall building. For more information, please contact Dick Lisi at (508)

410-1332 or lisirichard15@yahoo.com.

Free Playgroup at the Hitchcock Academy; sponsored by Union 61 Family Foundation Five Grant. It includes: Music & Movement on Wednesday 9-9:45 a.m. and Playgroup on Monday & Thursday 9-11 a.m. For more information about these and a variety of other classes visit us at www.hitchcockacademy.org or call 413-245-9977

Grief Support Group: at Overlook Hospice, Charlton: Have you recently experienced the loss of a parent, child, sibling, friend or spouse? We are here to help. Join a safe, supportive and caring group to share your stories and support others who are learning to live again after the death of a loved one. Drop-in group for adults meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, 1-2:30 p.m. Contact Susan Fuller at (508) 434-2200.

THRIFTY: Saint Paul II Parish's Flea Market, at 40 Charlton St., Southbridge, is open each Monday from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and each Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Items for sale include household, linens and furniture. We also have a holiday room. Donations are appreciated. All proceeds go to the support of the church.

NUMISMATICS: Southbridge Coin Club meets on the third Friday of the month (except July and August). The doors open by 7 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Collectors of all ages are welcome. The meetings include raffle, auction, and show and tell. Light refreshments are served. The meetings are held in the community room at the Southbridge Savings Bank at 200 Charlton Rd. (Route 20), Sturbridge.

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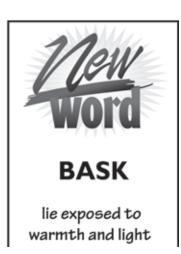
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THE

KAREN

Easy backyard garden tips



It's officially summertime and New Englanders are celebrating the long awaited season. While you're enjoying "fun in the sun" there are a few hassles that come with the season — thankfully there are chances are there's a simple solution to common garden and other warm weather dilemmas. The following tips are geared toward helping you spend less time doing chores and more enjoying the outdoors!

Flower gardens and

birds complement each crawling in. TAKE other naturally. Here are a few ideas to keep feathered friends happy throughout the season. HINT

*To lure birds into a new bird bath, simply fill the bottom with some sand and float some birdseed on top of the water.

*On hot days, toss a few ice cubes into a bird bath that's located in the sun to cool off the water and attract chirping bathers.

*Pesky ants seem to love the hummingbird feeder's sugar solution as much as the tiny birds do.

Here's how to halt an invasion of ants: Wrap a fabric softener dryer sheet around the hanger with a rubber band. Or simply coat the hanging string of the feeder with petroleum jelly to prevent curious ants from

Did you know if you plant your lettuce near tall growing vegetables, the big plants will give off shade, allowing the lettuce to keep its cool and prevent bitter leaves?

To keep bugs off tender lettuce leaves, sprinkle cavenne pepper on growing lettuce. Repeat after each rainfall. And don't forget to rinse thoroughly before serving!

Since azaleas thrive on acidy soil, they benefit from an occasional cocktail of two tablespoons white vinegar diluted in a quart of water.

Here's a fact you might not know: White azaleas bloom longer than any other color of the plant.

Do you have leftover garden seeds? If so, they will likely sprout again next year if you store

them in the refrigerator in a tightly closed jar with a packet of silica gel. The gel packets can be recycled from vitamin bottles or even new shoe boxes.

Here's a quick tip to scale the tallest plant in an island flower bed: Choose plants whose mature height is equal to about half the width of the bed. Place these plants in the center of the bed so they can be viewed from all sides.

Be sure to soak your plants when you water them. A little bit of water here and there will weaken the roots by forcing them upward. So when it comes to irrigating the garden, it's better to water them thoroughly less often then to give them a sparse sprinkling daily.

Believe it or not, a chrysanthemum plant in the vegetable garden is a good water gauge. Because the flower wilts before other plants during a dry spell, it'll act as a red flag to tell you to irrigate.

Rule of thumb: Plants need an inch of water weekly during hot weather, either from rain or watering.

Win Dinner for Two Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common

in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press publications? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the *Hint!* c/o Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Or e-mail kdrr@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.





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reast 3000 Level 1-170mt (Vassant rever randoma tene views Edstein Labor upper Juni-resst 3000 Level 1-170mt (Vassant rever randoma tene views Edstein Labor upper Juni-resst 3000 Level 1-101 2300 Level 1-101 Level 1-101 Level Vopen FP Hant Custom Granite Kit wilsland, Stainless Appliances, Gas Range, Soft Close Cabinets & Recessed Lights Spectacular Lake Facilie Great Rm, Stone Gas Frie Survounded by Custom Cabinetry, Recessed Lights & Ceiling Fant Dining Area w/Custom Ceiling Full Bath w/Granite Vanity & Cus-rest 54.5 Stone Lavar David Houst Level Fast Durows the Revel Area to Part and 42.5 Rev

ON DEPOSIT WEBSTER LAKE - 100 Union Point Rd! Western Exposure - Beautiful Sunsets! 11 Rooms! 2.300'! Recently Renovated! Hardwood Floors! 5

Rd! 440' Waterfront! Great Location!

Direct Highway Access! 3.4 Acres! UNDEVELOPED LAND w/EXOUISITE

VIEWS! Explore the Opps! Build a staurant, Hotel, Condominiums! Cozy 4

w/2nd Floor! \$339.000.00

WEBSTER LAKE - 12 Kenneth Ave! South Pond! 5 Rm Ranch! 80' Waterfront Completely Remodeled 10 Yrs Ago! Kraftmaid Cabinet Kit w/Island & Silesto

Counters! Bamboo Wood Firs Throughou



Cathedral, Skylight & Hrdwds! Comfortable Master Bdrm! Frplcd Lower Level Fam Rm! 2 Car Garage!





MILLBURY - WATERFRONT! Ramshorn Lake! 51 Davis Rd! Beautifully Landscaped & Private 1.22 Acres with 500' On the Water Views from this Perfect Peninsula! Ideal for Entertaining! Stonewalled Gated Entry, Long Private Driveway to Water Views from this Perfect Peninsula! Ideal for Entertaining! Stonewalled Gated Entry, Long Private Driveway to its Stately Appearance! Sprawling Stone & Slate 6+ Room Masterpiece! Light Abounds Throughout! Cathedral & Tray Ceilings with Skylights! Unique Country Kitchen! Formal Dining Room! Fireplaced Great Room! Lake Facing Spacious Master Suite with Everything You'd Expect! 3 Comfortable Bedrooms! 3 Full Bathrooms! Central Air! Garages - 2 Car Detached & 1 Car Detached! Reward Yourself! \$1,099,000.00



Gazebo! Lakeside Pool! Sandy Beach!

New listing! 2 Family on webster lake middle pond waterfront! Rare

patio! Taxes \$4,624 yr.

Opportunityl Great for the investor name induce point water of the area income. Views with a sandy shorelinel First floor has one bedroom – second floor is 2 bedrooms. Each unit has its own washer/dryer hook

ss to i-395! Walkout basement & storage

\$412,900



Lake Views! Spacious Kit & Dining Area! 2 Baths! 55' of Sandy Beach! \$475,000.00

-11 WESTER LAKE – 8 Reid Smith Cove Road! Panoramic Lake Views! West Expo! Super Sunsets! 9,698' Lot! Gently Sloping! 2,254' Custom Contemp Cape, Built 09 as 2nd Home, Like New! Open Fir Plan! Spectacular Lake Facing Great Rm w17' Ceiling, Recessed Lights, Silders to Trex Deck, Stone Case Frie, Surround Sound & Gleanning Hrdvds! Carnie Kit w1sl, SS Appliances, Sot (Case Cahinets, Hrdwis & Recessed Lights! List Fit Master w17ie Bath, Whirpool Tub/Shower, Dube Sink & Linear Heat United Statistics for Ondersing Great Am w17ie Cash, Singer Statistics for Onderson Measured Heat United Statistics for Onderson Case Case Cash Statistics for Case Cash Statistics for Onderson Measured Heat Statistics for Onderson Case Cash Statistics for Ca Closet! Upstairs Sitting Area Overlooking Grand Rm w/Lake Views! Hrdwd Hall to 2 Bdrms w/Recessed Lights, Ceiling Fans & Dble Closets! Full Bath & Linen Closet! Lower Level Walkout Fam Rm w/Tile Flr, Lights, Geiling Fans & Dble Closetsl Full Bath & Lanen Cooket Lights, Geiling Fans & Dble Closetsl Full Bath & Lanen Cooket Lights, Geiling Fans, Stone Gas Pripl, Surround Sound, Wet Bar & Slider Bath wTile Flr! Utility Rm wLaundry & Storage! Nice Docks! Get Packing! \$724,900.00

Recessed Lights & Centing Faith Dinnig Faith Share and Science and Science



WEBSTER LAKE - 405 Treasure Island! To nhouse! 6 Rms! 1.874'! Hardwood Floors! Applianced! Remodeled Kit! Open Floor Plan! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Frplcd Fam Rm! CAir! Gas Heat! Recent Trex Deck! Garage! 2 BOAT Re Rm 2 Bdrm Home! Oversize 2 Car Garage SLIPS! Heated Pool, Sandy Beach!

\$289,900.00

Bedrooms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Expansive Decks! Garage! Extra Lot Open Flr Plan! Composite Deck! Lake Parking Across Street! Still In Time for Summer! \$629,000.00

Facing Master! 2 Bdrms! Full Bath! Fam Rm! \$439,900.00



WEBSTER LAKE - 602 Treasure Is! Townhouse! 6 Rms! 1,874'! Hrdwd Floors! Applianced Granite Kit! Open Fir Plan! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath w/Whirlpool Tub, Separate Shower & Bidet! 3 Baths! Frplcd Fam Rm! CAir! Gas Heat! Trex Deck! Recent Windows/Doors! Garage! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool, Sandy Beach! \$334,900.00



llent Opportunity to Finally Own Your Own Webster Lake Waterfront erty! Prime Location, 5,697+/- SF Lot, 50' Rd & Water Frontage at a Great Pricel Contemporary Ranch offers 996/- SF of Uning areav 28 Rs.
 Will bath. Plus, convenient, indoor access to Walkout Lower Level w/termen-dous potential for additional living area. Main level features Open Floor Plan wildrast fo ull front deckl Spectauluk Westerly views across Middle Pondl Additional land & shore frontage available.
 Sa45,000



Just in time for summer! Move in ready! This End Unit Condo is nice and bright with early morning natural light! Hardwood floors! Recent Energy Efficient Windows! 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 Baths, Fireplaced walkout Lower Level! Impeccable Park like grounds, Heated Pool! Boat Slip! Don't miss out! \$334,900



3 Mstr BR Suites w/Elegant 1st FIr Mstr ~ all w/ Private Baths, Finished Walkout LL w/Living & Billiard Rms & Summer Kitchen! Call Sharon at 508-954-7222 for More Information **\$1,150,000**.



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4 • THE VILLAGER • Friday, July 27, 2018



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RE& THE Local Events, Arts, and **Entertainment Listings**

FRIDAY, JULY 27





SATURDAY, JULY 28

10 A.M. - 2 P.M. 13th ANNUAL CAR SHOW FOR CHARITY To benefit Cancer Services at Baystate Mary Lane Hospital Lot opens at 9 A.M. for registration-\$10 fee (w/free t-shirt) Judging 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. w/trophies and prizes by 2 P.M. 50/50 prize wheel, raffles Live music with Dirty Pocket Rain date: Sun., July 29 JANINE'S FROSTEE 149 East St., (off Rt. 9) Ware, MA 413-967-7950



FRIDAY, AUGUST 3

6 p.m. - 9 p.m. FIRST FRIDAYS FESTIVAL IN DOWNTOWN PUTNAM, CT Theme: Greek-American heritage Live music! Food! Vendors!

KLEM'S REWARDS NIGHT AT THE WORCESTER BRAVEHEARTS Tickets only \$5 Watch the game and a fireworks show KLEM'S

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6 p.m. - 9 p.m. FIRST FRIDAYS FESTIVAL IN DOWNTOWN PUTNAM, CT Theme: Native-American heritage Live music! Food! Vendors!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

6 p.m. - 9 p.m. FIRST FRIDAYS FESTIVAL IN DOWNTOWN PUTNAM, CT Theme: Scandinavian-American heritage Live music! Food! Vendors!

ONGOING

JUNE 6 THROUGH AUGUST 29

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CRUISING FOR CHARITY CAR SHOW 5 p.m. - dusk 100% profits go to Masonic Children's www.klemsonline.com KLEM'S 117 West Main St., Spencer, MA 508-885-2708(Ext. 104)



JUNE 9 THROUGH OCTOBER 20

KLEM'S FARMERS MARKET Every Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Visit many local crafters, artisans & more! www.klemsonline.com 117 West Main St., Spencer, MA 508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)

ROADHOUSE BLUES JAM Every Sunday, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. CADY'S TAVERN 2168 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, RI 401-568-4102



TRIVIA SATURDAY NIGHTS 7:00 p.m. register 7:30 p.m. start up HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB 325 Pleasant St., Leicester, MA 508-892-9822

WISE GUYS TEAM TRIVIA Every Tuesday, 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. CADY'S TAVERN 2168 Putnam Pike (Rt. 44) Chepachet, RI 401-568- 4102

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JAMAICA WICKER Queen Bed Set: Head & Foot Board, Woman & Man's Dresser, 2 Nightstands. Paid \$5,400. Asking \$1,200. 2 SEATER LANCER POWER CHAIR 4' Long, Olive Color. NEVER BEEN USED! Asking \$350. (508) 461-9621

MEC 650 PROGRESSIVE LOADER: w/ extras \$250. 400 ANDERSON WINDOW 51x32 RO \$200. THERMATRU DOOR 36-80 Left Hand Inswing Full View with Grill \$185 or best

MOTORS: 1/2HP 230/460V 230/4601/ 34 5RPM

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Good Condition. Can email Pic-

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VCGSC-5366BSS,

100 GENERAL

110 NOVENAS

THANKSGIVING! A Prayer To

The Blessed Virgin (never

known to fail) Oh most beautiful

flower of Mt. Carmel. Fruitful

Star of the Sea, help me and

show me herein you are my

mother, oh Holy Mary, Mother of

God. Queen of Heaven and

Farth, I humbly beseech you

from the bottom of my heart,

succor me and this necessity.

There are none that can with-

stand your call. Oh show me

to thee. (3 times) Holy Mary I

(3 times) Sweet Mother, I pray

for this cause in your hands (3

times). Holy Spirit, resolve all

I can attain my goal. You gave

son must say this praver on 3

consecutive days. After 3 days

the request will be granted. This

prayer must be published after

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Classifieds 508-909-4111

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SPANISH: Bosque

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There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?





Answers: I. No heart on girl's shirt 2. Dandelion growing in grass 3. Bird on wood pole 4. Post by boy's head is shorter



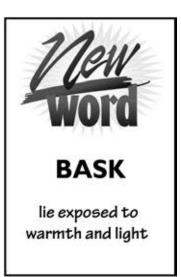
BICYCLES COME IN VARIOUS TYPES BASED ON THE SURFACES UPON WHICH THEY WILL BE RIDDEN. MOUNTAIN BIKES



• 1829: WILLIAM BURT PATENTS A FORERUNNER TO THE TYPEWRITER.

• 1914: AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY ISSUE AN ULTIMATUM TO SERBIA, PRECIPITATING WORLD WAR I.

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FRENCH: Forêt

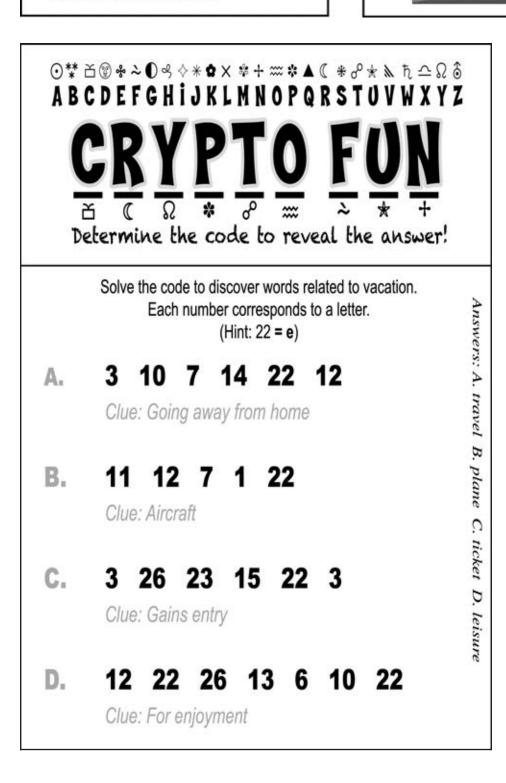
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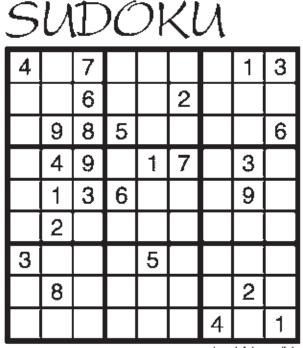


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Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: ROLLER COASTER





Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid. broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

L	Z	4	6	8	3	2	9	9
S	2	3	9	Z	F	7	8	6
6	8	9	7	9	S	L	L	ε
L	9	۱	3	6	4	Ģ	2	8
Þ	6	8	S	Ζ	9	3	ŀ	Z
2	3	Ğ	Z	١	8	6	Þ	9
9	7	7	L	ε	Ş	8	6	5
8	G	6	2	ŧ7	Z	9	£	F
ε	L	3	8	9	6	7	ç	Þ
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AUTOMOTIVE

5 tips to successfully sell your car

Selling a used vehicle does not have to be a complicated process. But too often private sellers struggle to sell their vehicles because they are unsure of how to do so. A little information on the selling process can make it easy to unload vehicles quickly and at the prices sellers desire.

1. KNOW THE MARKET.

experts The at Edmunds say sellers should research the market before putting their vehicles up for sale. Compare the prices of similar makes and models, and track whether those vehicles are moving quickly. Cars that are hot commodities will sell relatively quickly. Even though these may not be the flashy vehicles, family sedans, trucks and vans tend to turn over fast. Convertibles, classic cars or those with special features may take longer to move and will have to be priced accordingly.

2. DETERMINE THE VEHICLE'S WORTH.

Just because sellers want to get predetermined amounts for their vehicles doesn't mean those figures are the going rates for their cars and trucks. Using resources like Kelley Blue Book, NADA Guides and Autotrader.com can help sellers determine the value of their rides according to factors such as mileage, age, model, and condition of the vehicle.



services can be a good selling point because it shows that the seller maintained the vehicle to the best of his or her ability. It could be worth the investment to pull the CarFax[®] report on the vehicle as well to see how it measures up. Some buyers will request that information as well.

The Department of Motor Vehicles also suggests gathering a release of liability form to keep sellers from being liable for any damages incurred after the vehicle is sold; warranty documents if the car is still under a manufacturer's warranty; and the vehicle's title.

4. PREPARE THE VEHICLE.

Prior to selling, give the car a facelift and a good wash. Vacuum floors, floormats, seats, and the trunk. Clean the interior, and wash windows inside and out. A fresh wash and wax can improve the appearance of the vehicle and help it to photograph well for sale pictures.

5. ADVERTISE THE SALE. Advertise the vehicle in a variety of different formats. Opt for the classifieds section of a local newspaper, post it online and share through social media. A sign on the vehicle is also smart. This will improve the chances of it being seen.

Selling a car can take some effort, but with the right tactics, cars can be sold quickly and at prices that make sellers happy.



Buyers may be waiting in the wings to purchase used vehicles that have been well-maintained.

AND OTHER PAPER-WORK.

Sellers should dig through their files to unearth maintenance receipts and other documentation on their vehicles. For those who can't find receipts, ask for such receipts where the vehicle was serviced. According to Kelley Blue Book, proof of regular oil changes and other

Clean Your Car

Reasons To



A clean car not only looks better, it's safer and more fuel efficient.

(NAPS)

If any of the more than 260 million cars in America is yours, here's important advice: Keep it clean.

First, dirt can damage the paint, erode the protective finish and lead to rust.

Second, a clean car improves gas mileage. Dirt causes drag. Third, it's not safe to drive with dirt, bugs and debris covering the windows, especially at night.

Fourth, you increase your car's trade-in value.

Fifth, a clean car just seems to run better.

Fortunately, it's easy to avoid these problems. A U.S.-based company makes car-cleaning pads that work with just car wash soap and water to remove bugs, dirt, grime, minor road tar, bird droppings and so on.

There's no need for separate bug removers, glass cleaners, sponges, tar removers, clay bars and the like and there are no chemicals or detergents in the reusable pads.

These Bugs Off Pads are environmentally friendly as well as safe for paint, clear coat, plastic, glass, graphics and metals. The company even offers a money-back guarantee.

Once your car is clean, consider the wheels. Reusable, durable Better Than A Brush Wheel Scrubbers also work with only soap and water.

The pads and scrubbers are available at select car dealerships as well as at www.bugsoffpads.com.

www.StonebridgePress.com

with old headlights

The dangers of driving

(MS) —Routine vehicle maintenance protects drivers and their passengers and can keep cars and trucks running strong for years. Though drivers typically recognize the need to have their oil changed and their tires rotated, few may realize the importance of tending to their headlights as well.

Why replace aging headlights? Much like tires, shocks and brakes, headlight bulbs wear out over time. As bulbs age, they begin to dim, adversely affecting their light output.

"The filament in a headlight bulb ages with use, time and exposure to the elements," said Ann-Marie Hines, Senior Marketing Manager at Lumileds, a global lighting solutions company. "As a result, the bulb becomes fragile and starts to deteriorate, and this causes the light output to diminish. At the end of a typical service life, perhaps two to three years, headlight bulbs will likely be projecting a much shorter and less powerful beam light than when they were new."

Aging drivers are especially vulnerable to the ill effects of headlights with diminished light output. That's because the amount of light the human eye needs to see increases exponentially with age. As a person ages, his or her eyes naturally become more opaque, reducing the amount of light the eyes can receive. That's a significant concern for aging drivers, but also for the people with whom they share the road, as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates there will be more than 57 million licensed drivers age 65 and older by 2030. Taking measures to have as much light as possible on the road when driving at night can go a long way toward ensuring the safety of all motorists.

How to put more light on the road

While drivers may not be able



sure to the elements," said Ann-Philips Upgrade headlight bulbs (right) put more light on the road than older, Marie Hines, Senior Marketing more traditional halogen headlights, which are standard in many vehicles.

prevent the effects of aging on their eyes, they can take steps to put more light on the road when they're driving.

• Replace old headlight bulbs. Replacing old headlight bulbs is the simplest way for drivers to put more light on the road. Lumileds recommends replacing headlight bulbs in pairs every two to three years. Replacing bulbs in pairs, even if only one headlight appears to be dimming, can produce a more even light output that makes roads safer for drivers, their passengers and fellow motorists.

· Upgrade headlight bulbs. Merely replacing aging headlight bulbs might not be enough to adequately combat the effects of aging for many drivers. That's because a recent study from the AAA automotive club found that the halogen headlights used in more than 80 percent of the vehicles on the road today failed to safely illuminate unlit roadways, even when vehicles were traveling at speeds as low as 40 miles per hour. Lumileds, the exclusive supplier of Philips automotive light products, offers a full range of Philips upgrade headlight bulbs that can help to dramatically improve nighttime vision and safety. These bulbs feature advanced technology that makes them brighter and more efficient, which puts more light on the road. Lumileds also has developed an innovative and convenient online Bulb Look Up that helps drivers identify the right headlight, exterior or interior bulb for their particular vehicles. The Philips

Bulb Look Up, available at

www.philipsautolighting. com, even shows drivers where they can buy the right bulbs for their vehicles.

• Keep headlights clean. Dirty or clouded headlight lenses can also reduce light output and further compromise drivers' visibility at night. Periodically clean headlights to remove any build up of dirt or grime. If the lenses are clouded or have a yellow haze, the clarity can be restored to 'like new' condition with the Philips Headlight Restoration Kit.

When combined with the natural effects of aging, old headlights can be dangerous. Thankfully, drivers can quickly and easily improve their vehicles' light output to make nighttime driving safer. Learn more at www. philipsautolighting.com.

AUTOMOTIVE

What car colors may say about drivers

Cars and trucks may be modes of transportation, but many people see their vehicles as extensions of their personalities.

The color of a vehicle can say a lot about its driver. In fact, automotive experts say color affects drivers' decisions when they're buying new vehicles. In 2015, a survey from PPG Automotive Coatings found the color palette of black, silver, gray, and white makes up 75 percent of new cars on the road. White has been the most popular car color for years, perhaps because neutral tones tend to look new for years, improving resale value as a result.

The Pantone Color Institute periodically highlights popular trends in colors for home decorating, graphic design, fashion, and much more. Their experts know a thing about what color can say about a person. Here's a look at how drivers may perceive themselves (and how others view them) based on their color choices in vehicles, courtesy of Pantone, NerdWallet, Thrillist, and Today.com.

• White: This color perhaps thanks to the popularity of Apple prod-



ucts — can often project a persona of a diligent, hardworking person. White is a dependable color that also is sleek and modern. Many people who prefer white also like the purity of the color and its perceived cleanliness.

• Black: Black vehicles have stood the test of time as status symbols. Those who purchase black cars may view them as classic and powerful. Black also conveys elegance. That's why limousines and hired cars are often black.

• Silver: Silver cars may have futuristic connotations because of their metallic hues. Silver vehicles also can be elegant and prestigious. A certain element of modernity is associated with silver cars and trucks.

· Gray: People who choose gray vehicles may be less concerned about status and more interested in a vehicle that blends in with the crowd. This no-nonsense hue could be ideal for cautious, evenkeeled drivers who like to go with the flow.

• Blue: Light blue to mid-blue cars convey a sense of calm and coolness. Blue is a dependable color and may indicate the person behind the wheel is friendly. Dark blue can be a confidence-booster and also signal authority, as many police cruisers and law enforcement uniforms feature deep blue.

• Red: People who own red cars probably like flash and attention. They're likely magnetic personalities who enjoy standing out in a crowd.

• Brown/beige: These earth-toned shades may indicate a person who is not pretentious, but easygoing and fiscally responsible. Reliability and comfort is prized above flashiness for those who go brown and beige.

• Green: Green cars indicate owners who have a very strong sense of self and care little about what others think of them. They may be the people who march to the beat of their own drums. But the popularity of green cars peaked in the 1990s, so fewer green cars may be on the road today than in the past.

Vehicle colors may say a lot about the people behind the wheel.

What to do when your vehicle breaks down

Knowing what to do when a car breaks down can make such unfortunate situations much less stressful for drivers. Smartphones and wifi networks may make it less stressful to cope with broken down vehicles. However, wifi networks are not always accessible in remote locations, so drivers would be wise to revisit these tips for handling broken down vehicles, courtesy of Esurance, in advance of their next road trip.

• Turn on hazard lights. Hazard lights inform other drivers that something is wrong with your vehicle, and the sight of hazard lights typically compels fellow motorists to give drivers a wide berth and facilitate their moving off of the roadway



• Attempt to get off the highway. After turning on their hazard lights, drivers who know or suspect something is wrong with their vehicles should try to get off the highway. Move into the righthand lane as soon as possible, ultimately trying to get onto the shoulder. Avoid the left-hand shoulder if possible, as the left lane is a passing lane and motorists likely won't be expecting vehicles in this area of the highway.

• Turn the steering wheel away from the road. Broken down vehicles are unpredictable, and drivers may not have the luxury of pulling over onto flat road surfaces. Turning the steering wheel away from the road prevents it from rolling into traffic if drivers are forced to pull over on an incline.

· Be especially careful before exiting the vehicle. Exiting a broken down vehicle can be very dangerous, especially when drivers are forced to pull over on busy highways. Drivers who have pulled over into the right shoulder should wait to exit the car until there is ample time for them to get out and safely make it to the shoulder. If necessary, crawl across the front seat and

exit using the passenger-side door. All passengers should exit the vehicle on the passenger-side if the car has been pulled onto the right shoulder.

• Call for help. Only after they have safely gotten their vehicles off the highway should drivers call for help. Passengers may want to avoid calling until the car is off the road as well, as it can make for faster relief if callers wait

until they know their exact location to call for help.

• Set up flares or triangles behind the vehicle. If it's safe to do so, set up flares or triangles behind the vehicle. If the flares or triangles are buried in the trunk, drivers can ask a passenger to serve as lookout and warn them if they need to get away from the vehicle.

· Pop the hood. An opened hood is

another indicator that a vehicle is broken down and can be especially valuable to drivers who do not have flares or triangles.

Wait for help. Do not attempt to fix the vehicle on the side of the highway. Doing so leaves drivers vulnerable to oncoming motorists.

Factors that impact auto insurance premiums



Insurance rates are impacted by different factors, some of which vary between insurers.

Auto insurance rates vary from person to person, even though it may seem like the offerings are the same. But no two drivers are the same, and certain factors may be affecting drivers' auto insurance premiums without the motorists even realizing it.

Automotive insurance provider State Farm says most insurance companies consider several factors when calculating the cost of car insurance. Recognizing which situations can increase or lower costs can help drivers get the best rates and coverage needed. Although it can be tempting to reduce the price of insurance by choosing lower amounts of coverage, there are other ways to make insurance more affordable.

• Move. Insurers typically look at where a person lives when calculating rates. Those people who live in highly populated, urban areas likely will have higher premiums than others who live in more rural towns. That's because greater population density often translates into more people on the road — and a greater chance for insurance claims due to fender benders or theft. By moving, a person may be able to cut rates.

· Gender and age are factors. One can't step into a time machine, but it's helpful to know that growing a little older can lower insurance premiums. The financial advice source Money Crashers say that young men usually incur higher rates than young women because statistically men get into more accidents. However, as a person moves into his or her senior years, the roles reverse. Older women may see higher rates than men the same age.

• Keep make and model in mind. The type of vehicle driven can affect insurance premiums. Certain insurance carriers will increase premiums on vehicles that are more susceptible to damage. Flashy sports cars or those that do not score as highly on vehicle safety

ratings calculated by industry experts may result in high premiums. Vehicles that are desirable to car thieves also may cost more to insure. Researching vehicles prior to purchase and checking the rates for those cars or trucks with insurance companies can help keep costs low.

• Commuters may pay more. Individuals who use a car for business or frequent commuting may pay more than people who drive less because statistically there is a greater risk for an accident, says State Farm. Reducing commute times can lower premiums.

• Tie the knot. Insure.com says married couples have been found to be less of a risk to insurance providers statistically than those who are single. A study by the National Institutes of Health found that single drivers were twice as likely to be in an auto accident as married drivers. Combining policies also can help married people save.

• Follow the rules of the road. Drivers who have moving violations, drink and drive or engage in otherwise risky behavior behind the wheel may see their rates soar

Insurance companies weigh factors such as driving record, age, locality, and more when assessing premium costs. Drivers have some room to get lower rates by knowing the factors that determine their premiums.

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